





A Public Works Department employee yesterday removes a banner that makes an explosive pun on Communications Minister Limor Livnat's name on the Jerusalem-Tel Aviv highway.

A-G asks police to investigate anti-Livnat signs

By LIAT COLLINS and MICHAL YUDELMAN

from various sources. One of the respect for Livnat. Bazak could that no threat to the prime minis-

first calls for an inquiry came not say who was behind the cam- ter existed from the Left of the

gation after receiving complaints placards and he has complete Yossi Sarid stated in response

confidence vote

By LIAT COLLINS. JAY BUSHINSKY and MICHAL YUDELMAN

A last-minute deal with a price tag of NIS 225 million assured Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu of Yisrael Ba'aliya's support in today's no-confidence vote, making it virtually impossible for the government to be defeated,

The agreement calls for immediate implementation of all the commitments made to the party last year when the government was formed, including subsidies and job placements for immigrant scienosts, housing solutions, and cultural integration programs.

The terms were worked out in marathon negotiations between Avi Maoz, a senior adviser to industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky, on behalf of the Yisrael Ba'aliya Party, and Prime Minister's Office Director-General Avigdor Lieberman and MK Michael Eitan on behalf of Netanyahu.

The housing agreement's cost is estimated at NIS 200 million. It was drawn up by former finance minister Dan Meridor and Deputy Housing Minister Meir Porush when the cabinet was formed, but was never implemented.

Resurrection of the immigrantscientists' program, known by the Hebrew acronym "Kamea," was pegged at NIS 6 million and the cultural integration programs, including broadcasts on Channel 33 in by Labor and jointly by Meretz, Hadash, and the Democratic Arab Party on the government's economic and diplomatic policies, need a 61 MK majority to pass. Barak said the party is trying to

talk with coalition MKs to persuade them to vote according to conscience. Labor faction chairman Ra'anan Cohen met separately with Meir Sheetrit and David Re'em (Likud), Bronfman, Emanuel Zissman (Third Way), and Michael Kleiner (Gesher). Each meeting lasted about 30 minutes. Cohen is expected to hold more meetings today before the vote. None of the MIKs he spoke to promised to support the no-confi-

dence motions, however, Zissman noted that the Third Way had decided to support the prime

Religious parties demand Ne'eman's return, Page 3

minister in the vote and he is committed to toe the party line. He added, though, that he would consider cooperation with the opposition in the future.

Cohen said that, although he knows the opposition does not have the necessary majority to bring down the government, it is necessary to "show that there is a strong alternative to the present govern-

night and will go on loday to tie up all the loose ends. Netanyahu was to meet National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon late last night, to advise him on his new cabinet position, presumably that of finance minister.

A new front opened against Netanyahu yesterday as the Gesher and Tsomer factions within the Likud explored the possibility of quitting the Likud and setting up a separate Knesset faction. Gesher MK Maxim Levy and Tsomet's MK Eliezer Zandberg met 10 discuss the issue

Gesher is to decide only at the last moment how to vote on the no-confidence motions, but is expected to abstain or to be absent during the vote

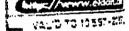
Gesher leader Foreign Minister David Levy said he was facing "a difficult personal decision." Speaking at Gesher's closed meeting yesterday, Levy said that in addition to deciding how to vote in the Knesset, he had "to decide on [the move which would determine] my status, position, and the future of the cabinet.

Levy was referring to pressures from Gesher's senior MKs David Magen and Maxim Levy not to support the government and even, as Magen is demanding, to act to advance the elections.

Levy expressed profound disappointment with Netanyahu's govemment and with his work with Netanyahu.

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is responsible for banners placed along the Jerusalem-Tel Aviv highway praising Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and denouncing Communications Minister Limor Livnat, who last week resigned as the liaison betweeo the cabinet and the Knesset.

Attorney-General

The signs read: "Netanyahu is the way" and "Livnat is explosive" [a play on her name in Hebrew, which could mean "brick," as in a brick of explosives].

Elyakim from Labor MK Yona Yahav, Rubinstein has asked police who rushed to the communicainvestigation branch head Cmdr. tion minister's defense, saying the slogan against Livnat was Sando Mazor to investigate who reminiscent of the things said about Yitzhak Rabin before his assassination. Yahav, a lawyer by training, said the slogan falls in the category of incitement.

"We have to get rid of this phenomenon at the outset," Yahav said. "I don't feel I can sit quietly and do nothing."

MK Nissim Zvilli (Labor) accused the Prime Minister's Office of being behind the campaigo.

minister's prime The spokesman, Shai Bazak, said Rubinstein ordered the investi- Netanyahu had denounced the

port among the young and the

radical Islamic wing. So far, Iranian influence in

Palestinian society has been lim-

ited. Its sole basis of support bas

been through Iranian sponsor-

ship of Islamic Jihad, which,

unlike Hamas, is regarded as a

terrorist organization that does

no political outreach to Palestinians.

ed Iran. They include Hebron

Mayor Mustafa Natshe, and a

The sources said the PA rap-

senior adviser to Arafat.

Over the past few months, sev-

paign, but said it caused the premier more harm than good. He said he assumed the people responsible were also behind similar campaigns which had denounced Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai.

Bazak added that there were threats on the prime minister's life from both sides of the political spectrum. "The prime minis-ter too is subject to dangerous incitement from both Left and Right and the media is protecting the inciters," he said. Meretz sent its own activists to take down the posters against Livnat, declaring its objection to

However, Meretz leader MK.

any kind of incitement.

political map. Sarid said that as a member of the Knesset's subcommittee for secret services, he has access to all the existing information and could say with full responsibility that while "there may be certain threats on the prime minister's life, there is no threat from the Left of the political map." He advised Bazak

to "stop talking baloney." Helen Kaye adds: Commenting on the posters, Livnat, who yesterday presented the recommendations of the Peled Commission on reform of the broadcast system, joked, "I don't want to commeot on the posters. I decided on a communications explosion instead."

Russian and Amharic, are to cost NIS 16 million.

It was also agreed that rabbinical courts would be set up in the CIS.

All the commitments had apparently been accounted for in the 1997 budget. The terms were signed by MK Roman Bronfman and Eitan, in his capacity as coalition chairman.

They also specify that the current ambassador to Russia, Aliza Shenhar, will remain at her post for at least three more months, and will not be immediately replaced by the Foreign Ministry's Herzl Inbar, whose candidacy was vehemently opposed by Yisrael Ba'aliya.

The agreement was submitted to the Knessel last night. Since by law, coalition agreements must be presented at least 24 hours before a noconfidence motion, today's no-confidence vote may postponed from the afternoon to the evening.

"I'm happy we've reached an agreement," Sharansky said last night. "I hope we've not only signed an agreement, but sealed off a difficull period in this government's history. Instead of dealing with putting out fires, we can finally reach a situadon in which we can fulfill all the basic principles of this government

Labor Party leader Ehud Barak told his faction in the Knesset yesterday that the opposition does not have a real chance of loppling the government in today's no-confidence voting, but that such motions whittle away the government's standing.

"Not only in the Knesset, but in the streets of Israel I have found more and more people who say how ashamed they are [of having supported Netanyahu] and how scared they are of the prospects that Netanyahu is leading towards," said Eftan.

The no-confidence motions, filed

ment' The opposition does hope to further dent the government's image by getting a large number of votes for the motions, and perhaps to even gamer more votes than the coalition can muster in the prime minister's

defense. Netanyahu, meanwhile, expressed confidence that, despite all the pressures and demands from coalition partners, his government is sound. There is a government. It will remain in office. The coalition is sound. There are problems. [We're] solving them," Netanyahu said.

Netanyahu intends to present his new cabinet to the Knessel as planned today, after the no-confidence vote.

"I can't express my position out loud, I always have to whisper it to Bibi, and the public doesn't know of it at all," he said. "I have to answer questions in the street, like, "Where has David Levy disappeared to?' and it's not easy. In the present situation, I am Bibi's protector. All the way I was loyal to him, even more than I was to Begin."

Likud MK Shaul Amor, who was promised five times by Netanyahu to be appointed minister or to another senior post, finally succeeded in meeting the prime minister yester-day. He said afterwards that the meeting was hard, but that the prime minister told him nothing had been decided yes concerning the cabinet reshuffle and not to believe anything

Intensive meetings continued last he read in the newspapers.

Sharon meets PM, Frenkel

By DAVID HARRIS

National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon and Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel met in Sharon's office yesterday, amid growing speculation that Sharon will become the new finance minister. Frenkel, who is also the gov-

emment's economic adviser. gave Sharon a general overview of the state of the economy. "They meet from time to

time, and this meeting was not unusual, said Sharon's spokesman, Ra'anan Gissin. "He is allowed to meet senior figures in the economy from

"They do not meet on a weekly basis and this meeting

central bank spokesman. Sharon has not been formally asked to become finance minister, according to Gissin. "The truth is that if he were asked 10 be finance minister he would have serious reservations, because he wants to see through several projects he has started in the National Infrastructure Ministry, including the Ronen Report [on land reform], the supply of water [to Jordan], and the natural gas

project," said Gissin. Sharon also met last night with Prime Minister Binyamio Nelanyahu. The Prime Minister's Office said they discussed ministerial appoint-

ments, but stressed that nothing had been settled and the two was at Sharon's request," said a men will meet agaio today.

Arafat improves relations with Iran

By STEVE RODAN

The Palestinian Authority, which ooly last year attacked Teheran for supporting terrorism and trying to overthrow PA Chairman Yasser Arafat, has significantly improved relations with Iran, intelligence sources said yesterday.

The sources said the change in PA attitude toward Iran began io March, before the May election of Mohammed Khatami as the new presideot of the Islamic republic. They traced the new PA policy back to a March 23 meeting between Arafat and outgoing President Hashemi Rafsanjani at the conclusion of the Islamic Conference in lslamabad.

The intelligence sources said that was the first meeting between a high-level Palestinian official and an Iranian counterpart since the advent of the PA in 1994. In 1995 and 1996, Arafat himself attacked the Teheran leadership as being responsible for Hamas and Islamic Jihad terrorism against Israel in an Iranian attempt to torpedo the peace process.

The sources said PA efforts to improve relations with Iran have intensified since the election of Khatami, regarded as a reformer who commands widespread sup-



Arafat is also quietly stepping up contacts with Iraq. This includes a recent meeting between Arafat and Iraq's ambassador to Jordan. At this point, the sources said, Arafat's motives for renewing

ties with Iran are unclear. They said the PA leader could be attempting to increase his options, given the stalemate with Israel over the extent of withdrawal in the territories and the construction on Jerusalem's Har Homa.

The sources said Arafat's moves toward Teheran might aim to increase pressure on Israel as well as soften Iran's opposition to the PA. They said a PA rapprochement with Iran could also be aimed at improving Arafat's relationship with Hamas. The sources said Arafat has been focusing on both the secular and Islamic opposition in an attempt to widen support for his policies.

Ben-Elissar: Israel wants US aid to PA conditioned on action against terrorism

By HILLEL KUTTLER

WASHINGTON - Israel would like to see American aid eral more PA officials have visitto the Palestinians cootinue, but conditioned on the Palestinian Authority's performance against terrorism, Ambassador to the US Eliahu Ben-Elissar said yesterprochement with Iran comes as day.

The remarks were the first indication of Israel's intentions regarding the soon-to-expire US laws governing American-Palestinian relations. Ben-Elissar told The Jerusalem Post that Israel "is not satisfied, of course" with the PA's lack of security cooperation but, asked what he is recommending to Coogress, said: "We tell them we're in favor of support for the Palestinians - not into their private pockets but for the Palestinians [people]. The more jobs, employment, and welfare you can build is better for the

region and better for Israel. At the same time, the Palestinians must see it's not free, that they have to show they're in favor of peace. ... We certainly support the continuation of aid, but it should be clear to the Palestinians it's not without conditions - that they have to support the peace process, that terrorism is not acceptable.

Congress understands this. I don't have to explain it to them.

However, Ben-Elissar would not state whether he would so closely tie aid to compliance that penalties for infractions could be deducted from the aid total, saying that such details are an American legislative decision in which he would not interfere. The proposal is one of several under consideration on Capitol Hill as Congress considers possible changes to the Middle East

Peace Facilitatioo Act (MEPFA) and weighs the benefits of aid against growing dissatisfaction with the PA's performance.

Key congressional officials have awaited Israel's input on the matter, but MEPFA could be put on hold anyway (with only a short-term extension) due to an overloaded Congressional calendar leading up to the summer recess

Such leading members of Congress as Senate Foreign Relations Committee chairman Jesse Helms and House International Relations Committee chairman Benjamin Gilman stated last month that they will oppose US aid to the PA as long as it maintains its death penalty edict against land dealers who sell land to Jews.

with peace process By JAY BUSHINSKY "This has created a very difficult

The coalition crisis and pending cabinet reshuffle have virtually paralyzed the Middle East peace process, senior Foreign Ministry sources said yesterday.

Evidence of this could be seen in the fact that two of the foreign gobetweens seeking resumption of Israeli-Palestinian negotiations -Egypt's Osama el-Baz and the European Union's Miguel Moratinos - have refrained from any substantive contacts for the past several days.

situation," said one of Foreign Minister David Levy's top aitles. The aide detected dismay in the international community as well, saying that the search for regional peace has become a vested interest insofar as the US, the EU, and

Russia are concerned. Assessments by the Prime Minister's Office, however, were much more upbeat. Officials there insisted that the political crises had had no impact whatsoever on the peace process and that it has been business as usual throughout. mined yet.

"There have been contacts, messages have beeo exchanged, and various ideas have been considered," an aide said.

Meanwhile, Jordanian Ambassador to Israel Omar Rifai discussed several major joint industrial projects and investments with Foreign Ministry Director-General Eytan Bentsur, The Jordanian envoy also coofirmed Crown Prince Hassan's intention to visit Israel in the late summer. No date, limetable or itinerary have been deter-

ome to time." Ministry sources: Politics interfering



NEWS

Tuesday, June 24, 1997 The Jerusalem Post



in brief

Court frees manslaughter suspects on bail

Supreme Court Justice Eliyahu Mazza yesterday decided not to extend the remand of manslaughter suspects Walid Ahu Ahmed and Mustafa Abu Ahmed hy a further three months, since they have already been in custody for a year while on trial, Mazza ruled the two would be released on bail and held under house arrest until the completion of their prosecution for the death of a rival clan member during a blood feud. Mazza also criticized the way the trial is being conducted, saying it is poorly managed and noting that the prosecution has examined only seven of its 19 witnesses during the past year. /nim

IDF unveils armored jeep in Lebanon

The IDF has deployed dozens of hulletproof, US-built Humvees in south Lebanon to replace its more vulnerable Sufa jeeps. The Humvees, known as "Hummer" in Hebrew, have been plated with over a ton of Israeli-developed armor to protect them from Hizbullah ambushes.

The US armed forces reportedly considered armor-plating the Humvee following their deployment in Somalia, hut Israeli defense officials said the armored Hummer, which costs NIS 410,000 and is assembled by the IDF and Nazareth Industries, is the first to be deployed on an active war front. Arieh O'Sullivan

Samsung opens office here

Samsung, Korea's largest electronic corporation; opened an office last night in Herzliya, a move that officials called the most significant in the rapidly growing economic relations betweeo Israel and Korea.

Samsung Electronics, with sales of more than \$19 billion in 1996, is seeking to buy technology from Israeli start-up companies. The company manufactures a wide variety of products, from semiconductors to televisions.

Trade between Korea and Israel totalled \$700 million last year, and officials said the figure for 1997 could top \$1 billion. Steve Rodan

Kiryat Shmona man killed in traffic accident

A 40-year-old Kiryat Shmona man died yesterday after being hit hy a car as he was leaving the town's cemetery, where he had been visiting a relative's grave. An IDF helicopter was dispatched to take him to Haifa's Rambam Hospital, but it was delayed and arrived after he died. Police are investigating the incident.

Five people were injured, one of them critically and two of them seriously, in a collision between two cars near Kfar Hanagid, near Rehovot. Itim

Construction worker killed in fall

Eliezer Lugassi, 66, from Kiryat Motzkin, was killed when he fell yesterday from the construction site on the hridge in Jerusalem's French Hill neighborhood. An MDA doctor declared him dead at the scene.

Police and Labor and Social Affairs Ministry inspectors are investigating the death. Itim

Australia withdraws welcome mat for Arafat

Australian Deputy Prime Minister Tim Fischer was forced to admit vesterday that the Australian government will not honor his invitation for Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat to visit Australia. Fischer, who is also trade minister, issued the invitation when he met Arafat in Bethlehem in March. He said he had invited several regional leaders, including Arafat, to visit Australia when he toured nine Middle East countries as part of a trade drive.

The opposition Labor Party spokesman on foreign affairs, Laurie Brereton, asked Fischer in Parliament if be had obtained the permission of conservative Prime Minister John Howard before he invited Arafat to Australia. Fischer did not answer that

IDF: Wounded UNIFIL troops entered marked mine field

By DAVID RUDGE

Military sources yesterday rejected claims that the 1DF was responsible for the incident on Saturday in which six UNIFIL soldiers were wounded, one of them seriously, in a mine hlast inside the security zone. The explosion in which the sol-

diers, from the peacekeeping force's Irish hattalion, were hurt, occurred in the zone's western

Barasheet. UNIFIL said that the IDF had

planted mines in the area several months previously and that the UN force had asked that they be removed so the force could use the road to supply a UN position in the area.

The IDF Spokesman said yesterday that its own inquiry into the incident revealed that the road had

sector along a road running been cleared in compliance with between Beit Yahoun and UNIFIL's request. The ioquiry found that the troops had not kept to the road but had entered a fenced and signed minefield alongside it.

The statement issued by the IDF Spokesman's office said meetings had taken place between senior officers in the Northern Command and officers of the Irish banalion over the incident.

UNIFIL maintained at the time

that the troops had been wounded after discoveriog more mines along the road, even though they had been told that the track had been cleared. UNIFIL's own inquiry into the incident has not yet been completed.

Meanwhile, the Grapes of Wrath monitoriog group convened at UNIFIL's headquarters in Nakoura yesterday to hear complaiots from Israel over a string of roadside homh attacks in the

Jezzine enclave last Wednesday in which four people, including a South Lebanese Army officer, were killed and two other civilians were wounded.

ik

The group, established to supervise the understandings that ended the cross-border fighting last April, also heard a complaint from Lebanon over the shelling of a village south of Sidon on Saturday night. There were no casualties in that incident.



By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

Leaders of the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria, and Gaza and members of the Knesset lobby the Land of Israel Front agreed to take action if Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai does not live up to his. promise to dismantle the Palestinian tents crected outside the fence at Morag, yesterday afternoon at an emergency meeting on the recent riots in Hebron and Morag.

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According to council spokes-woman Yehudit Tayar, Mordechai promised to remove the Palestinian tents when he toured Gush Katif on Sunday. Tayar said the council already has started sending representatives to Morag and council leaders are planning to visit there on Friday, together with members of the Land of Israel Front, and gather opposite the Palestinian tents. "Morag will be our test case," she

said.

Gush Katif spokesman Shlomo Kostiner refused to give any details of Friday's plans. Kostiner added he was unaware of any guarantees made by Mordechai to dismantle the Palestinian tents.

The IDF Spokesman said that Palestinians threw stones at a vehicle driving near the Morag hothouses last night. The passengers in the vehicle got out and fired warning shots in the air to disperse the stone throwers and continued driving along the road. The spokesman said they then proceeded to uproot a Palestinian flag and dismantle one of the protest tents. Police and bor-



Dr. Peres

Former prime minister Shimon Peres is serenaded by Spanish musicians yesterday, after receiving an honorary doctorate from the University of Alcala near Madrid.

Israeli Arab delegation expected to visit Syria next month

delegation

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question, but confirmed both that he had invited Arafat to Australia and that the invitation no longer applies. AP

Conference opens today on Nazi loot

By MARYLIN HENRY

Politicians, lawyers, authors and academic experts from Europe, Israel, the US and Latin America are to convene in Geneva today for a conference on Nazi loot. including gold, art and property. Naphtali Lavie of the World Jewish Restitution Organization and MK Avraham Herschson are scheduled to address the conference, which was organized by the Simon Wiesenthal Center, Emrys Davis. secretary-general of the Tripartite Gold Commission, is also expected to address the gathering. The commission was responsihle for post-war restitution to the central banks of Europe whose vaults were plundered by the Nazis. It now has some \$68 million in so-called "residual gold the leftovers since the restitution to the European banks - and the US, France and Britain are consideriog making that available to Holocaust survivors.

By Dayid Rudy A delegation of Israeli Arab

polincians is hoping to visit Syria key component of Hadash. The n the middle of next month and convention opens tomorrow in meet with senior officials there, including President Hafez Assad. Haifa. tion that will hold talks with mem-The prospects of such a visit

going ahead were given a boost vesterday with the announcement that Syria has given its approval in principle. According to reports, however, the Syrians made it clear that this

should not be seen as a step towards normalization of ties with Israel, but as recognition of the struggle of Israeli Arahs for their rights.

The delegation is slated to include Arah MKs from Hadash and other parties and leading public figures. Hadash secretary-general

Mohammed Baraki said they hoped the visit would occur during the second week of July. He said they would begin dealing with the

visit goins immediately after the convention envisaged. of the Israel Communist Party, the

"The Syrians, as we understand, are still examining the various groups that they would like to extend an invitation to. We have "This will be a political delegabeen invited in the past and we are being consulted about the strucbers of the Syrian government and ture of the proposed delegation, but we don't feel that anything said Baraki. "The delegation will will happen within the next two also express its solidarity with the Syrian stance against the continweeks," said Darawshe.

He revealed that the relations developed between the party and senior Syrian officials at the time had developed and strengthened and that contacts were continuing "within the legal boundaries of the State."

Darawshe also rejected the idea of Israel Arahs being used as mediators between Israel and Syria

"We don't feel that this governunimpressed by the implications ment, given its present policies, of the trip, saying it could cause has any intection of advancing the political or diplomatic harm if the peace talks. We don't want to delegation or its members are used waste our time and effort nor our to spread anti-Israel propaganda.

edit wim the Synan der police removed the settlers from Jay Bushinsky adds: the scene and prevented the inci-Government officials evinced

ate in Israel's name," said David

Bar-Illan, director of communica-

tions to the Prime Minister's

If Syria would open her territory

to normal tourism and a true cross-

section of Israel's population was

able to travel to Damascus and

other Syrian cities the effect on the

peace process would be much

Foreign Ministry aides also were

more salutary, he said.

peace talks.

Office.

dent from escalating. little if any cothusiasm about the Also last night a firebomb was thrown at the perimeter fence surrounding' Ganei Tal in the Gaza Strip. The IDF Spokesman confirmed the incident, adding that the firebomb ignited but there were no "This group certainly is not qualified or authorized to negoti-

damages or injuries reported. Kostiner said that on Sunday afternoon the fence Morag settlers had repaired recently had once again been torn down by Palestinians, who also stoned the hothouses. IDF troops dispersed the Palestinians by firing ruhber bullets and tear gas. Palestinian sources claim a youth was injured.

Meanwhile, the IDF Spokesman yesterday denied Palestinian claims that an agreement has been reached to remove the monument erected two weeks ago in memory of IDF soldier Sgt. Yossi Levy, who was killed in rioting last September after the opening of the Western Wall tunnel exit.

We deeply mourn the passing of

PHILIP OZINSKY

and extend our profound sympathy to Becky, Roni, Amos, and the children.

> Harold, Shirley, Pippa, and Jonnie Kowarsky

Ballistic missile conference opens in Eilat

meet with President Hafez Assad,"

ued Israeli occupation of the

Golan Heights, and for a compre-

Baraki ruled out the possibility

of the delegation being used as a

bridge between Israel and Syria,

saving that "a bridge is something

that has to be huilt in negotiations

Darawshe,

between the countries them-

spokesnian for the Democratic

Arab Party, which sent a delega-

tion to Syria over three years ago,

was skeptical about the proposed

hensive peace.

Mohanimed

selves.

By STEVE RODAN

Under tight security, about 600 representatives of 21 countries, as well as industry executives, gathered yesterday at an Eilat hotel to launch a four-day conference on ballistic missile defense sponsored by the US Defense Department. US officials said the conference was closed to the media and pub-

lic and that the hotel is off-limits to anyone but participants. Among the participating countries are NATO nations, Israel, Australia, Finland, Japan, South Korea, and several Eastern European nations. "The theme of the conference is the last decade of promise and

achievement," Richard Scorza, US Embassy spokesman said. "The discussions are on very tech-

oological and research and development issues The US is being represented by

former undersecretary of defense Paul Kaminski, who until earlier this year was responsible for acquisitions for the Pentagon. Other representatives include officials at the Pentagon's Ballistic Missile Defense Organization.

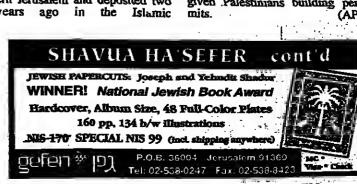
Saudi Arabia will give the Palestinians \$19 million to build 600 homes in Jerusalem and strengthen their hold over parts of the city, a senior PLO official said

Construction will begin within six weeks, and Palestinians planning to build homes can apply for loans to be paid for with the Saudi money, said Faisal Husseini, the top Palestinian official in Jerusalem.

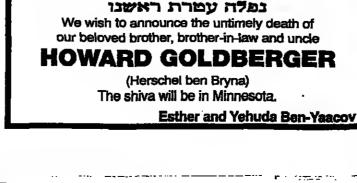
The \$19m. are part of a total \$50m. which Saudi Arahia earmarked for Palestinian housing and infrastructure projects in eastem Jerusalem and deposited two years ago in the Islamic

Development Bank. The Saudis stipulated at the time that the money could only be withdrawn for large-scale housing projects. Palestinian officials have said Israel was not issuing permits for large-scale Palestinian housing projects, and last week, Sandi Arabia decided to make some of the money available to individual homeowners, Husseini told a news conference in Gaza.

Hussein said the United Arah Emirates has pledged \$600m. for 15,000 Arah housing units, but that most of the money remains in the banks because Israel has not the banks occause given Palestinians building per-(AP)



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The Directors and Staff of JIA Israel

Incorporating The British Olim Society

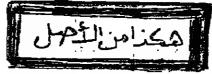
extend sincere condolences to their colleague

JILL FISCHER

on the death of her dear

MOTHER 5"

and wish all the family Long Life



In deep sorrow we announce the passing of our dear

PHILIP OZINSKY

The funeral will take place today, Tuesday, June 24, 1997, at Hayarkon Cemetery (Hotzei Shomron Road). Meeting at the entrance gate. Shiva at Rehov Lachover 3, Ramat Aviv.

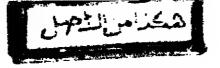
> The family: Wife: Becky Ozinsky **Daughter: Roni and Amos Bentzor** Sister and brothers: Naomi Loon (London), Meir and Batya Ozinsky, and all his brothers in South Africa Grandchildren: Assa and Yotam

yesterday.

projected visit to Syria. They do not regard as the kind of confidence-building measure that might lead to early resumption of

Saudis release money for

Arab housing in Jerusalem



NEWS

The Jerusalem Post

ine enclare las Viedneden th four people, includen th Letanese Army office th Litted and two other only the wounded t group, solaristed to a H group. Salaristed in an the understandings that the crow forder fighting is it also beard a complaintie the sholing day the of Girden on Case t south of Sidon on Salat bit. There was no casuado

Settlers' council: Morag will be test case By MARGOT DUDKEVIC

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Likud loyalists to polls

By HERB KEINON

Thousands of Likud activists went to polling stations yesterday to vote for representatives to their local party branches, and to the party's central committee, showing that - despite the dark clouds hovering over the Likud -they still have faith in their party. True, Likud princes Dan Meridor and Ze'ev Begin may have left the government, former prime minister Yitzhak Shamir may not bave wanted to share a podium with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu; and four or five Likud/Gesher MKs may abstain in today's vote of noconfidence. But for the faithful, and only the truly faithful voted in yesterday's elections, the party can still turn things around. "We have only been in power for a year, things will work out," said Vladimir Shklar, canvassing voters outside the Jerusalem polling place at the International Convention Center. "] understand Netanyahu, I also understand Ivet Director-General of the Prime Minister's Office Avigdor Lieberman]. Maybe this is because I'm Russian, and I understand the mind-set. We will see the fruits of his labors in a few years' time. Just look how he reconstructed the party." The scene at the Jerusalem voting station was oddly anachronistic. As a Likud fight song

The Jerusalem Post Tuesday, June 24, 1997

singing of Eretz Yisrael on both sides of the Jordan River blared from the speakers, the activists were casting ballots for members to the central committee. Notonly has the Likud long given up the idea of settling both sides of the Jordan, but - by its system of primaries - the party also has taken the bite out of its own central committee.

Nevertheless, the activists were going through the motions. "The central committee is the body that voted to initiate the primaries," said David Amar, seeking a seat on this body. "It is also the body that can do away with the system."

In addition to electing representatives to the party's central committee, the activists were also voting for representatives for their local branches. The local branches will be the ooes picking the Likud's candidates in the upcoming municipal elections.

At a time when it is difficult Meridor resignation, said, "People don't grasp the idea that for Netanyahu to hear a public word of support even from his was elected, not it was Bi own cabinet ministers, he could the Likud. Meridor made a polit- didn't really interest anyone. tion that will be seriously tested be encouraged by what at least ical mistake. No one has quit and Bibi is a winner, he has luck on in the Knesset today.



Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu casts his ballot yesterday in Jerusalem, during the internal Likud Party election for convention delegates and members of branch councils. He told reporters afterwards he is confident his government will remain in office. (Brian Hendler)

some of the hard-core party members were sayiog about him

at the Jerusalem polliog place. "He is outstanding," enthused Louis Lipsky, running for both the central committee and the local branch. "He is the right person at the right time. What has characterized his administration is the calculated way he makes decisions."

Lipsky, referring to the

come back, not Ben-Gurion and bis side. Nothing can change

oot Haim Ramon." Yaela Coben, also running for the central committee and the Jerusalem local branch, echoed this sentiment, saying that she is satisfied with the prime minister's performance. "There are no terror attacks,

and the whole Palestinian issue has been pushed to the side," Cohen said. "I'm happy that the radio is talking only about Meridor and [Ariel] Sharon, and Bar-On Affair not terror.

that."

Likud activist and deputy Jerusalem mayor Yigal Amedi, disputing claims that the party was disintegratiog, said "not only does the party still exist, but it is in power. It is true that the party's situation is not sterling, but we have three years to fix it." That the party has "three years to fix it" is an assumption taken for granted among most of the party loyalists casting their bal-

Matza to remain health minister

collapse of the health system.

Matza had originally wanted

the Tourism portfolio when the

government was established last

vear, but ended up with no port-

folio at all. He then agreed to

take Health in November, when

Tzahi Hanegbi abandoned the

portfolio to become justice min-

ister upon the resignation of

Ya'acov Ne'eman. Upon taking

the job as health minister, Matza

declared: "Not only will I be

health minister until the end of

this government's term, but 1

will also be so during the four

The resignation of Dan

Meridor from the Finance

Minisiry opened another oppor-

tunity 10 get the Tourism post, as

Tourism Minister Moshe Katsav

is expected to be shifted.

Though there has been a down-

years after that."

By JUDY SIEGEL

Health Minister Yehosbua Matza has withdrawn his request to move to what would likely have been more pleasant chores in the Tourism Ministry.

This decision, the result of what ministry officials called "atomic pressure" on Matza not to cause the entrance of a sixtb minister in five years, will force Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu to find another job for MK Silvan Shalom, who was reportedly promised the Health Ministry in the expected reshuffling of portfolios.

Only two days ago, Matza told Nelanyahu Ihal he was coming up against a brick wall in trying to deal with health issues, due to massive deficits in the health system and the continued refusal of the Treasury to cover them in line with the National Health Insurance Law. He regularly got

into arguments with Treasury officials, and denounced them as turn in tourism. Matza asked for the portfolio. responsible for the impending

But yesterday, Matza wrote to Netanyahu and said he had changed his mind.

"I thought, and I still do, that l could make the Tourism portfolio a big success, especially in dealing with the 50th anniversary of independence and towards the year 2000," he wrole. "But since my plans for leaving the Health Ministry were published, the impression was created that I'm looking to get out of this system and move 10 a much easier one. As you know well, I am not a man to run from baules or responsibility."

Maiza noied that hospital directors, ministry officials, and health fund officials pressed him not to leave, as every health minister takes months to learn the workings of the ministry, leaving the system in limbo in the interim.

Religious parties demand Ne'eman's return

By LIAT COLLINS and MICHAL YUDELMAN

Each of the three religious parties in the Knesset held meetings yesterday to decide how to pursue their demand that Ya'acov Ne'eman be brought back into the government as justice minister but each reached different conclusions.

Shas took the most extreme approach, saying that if Ne'eman is oot reinstated, its members would not support the new government appointments when they are presented to the Knesset.

United Torah Judaism also demanded that Ne'eman be returned but said this is oot an ultimatum.

The National Religious Party took a line somewhere in between. NRP faction chairman Hanan Porat, reading from the faction's decisions after the meeting, said: The NRP will vote its confidence in the prime minister in the motions [today] out of a desire to strengthen the government. The faction is united in its belief that in its belief that to rej Ne'eman must be brought back as the latter who must now give his justice minister. That was decided answer. unanimously." He said the faction



Ya'acov Ne'eman (Isaac Harari)

will meet this afternoon with the prime minister and would then decide how to vote on the appointments. "We have reason to believe our demand will not fall on deaf ears," Porat said.

But the Prime Minister's Office issued a statement saying that Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu had asked Ne'eman

that Ne'eman will be asked to make an official statement clari-, fying his decision not to return to the cabinet, shortly before Nelanyahu presents the new cabinet appointments to the Knesset, It is also possible that Netanyahu himself will announce that Ne'eman is not interested to rejoining the cabinet, the sources said. By yesterday it was clear, even!

to the religious parties, that Ne'eman bad appareotly declined Netanyahu's offer to rejoin the cabinet, but the prime minister was not saying anything about it.

According to yesterday's Yediot Aharonot, Ne'eman and Netaoyahu bave agreed to remain vague about Ne'eman's refusal to be minister, to prevent extortion attempts from the. coalition parties until Netanyahu finishes the cabinet reshuffle.

But MK Hanan Porat, of the National Religious Party, said on Sunday that he understood from Ne'eman that he had not declined the prime minister's offer because nothing bad beenoffered, and pointe and it was bc were offered the justice port-: folio be would be pleased to: Likud sources said yesterday accept it.

said his adviser, Yitzhak Rath. "But it would be logical for the Transport Ministry to run trans-

Currently, Sharon is responsible for the administrative side of the railways, with the Transport Ministry taking care of the opera-tional elements. This has led to a freeze in rail

developments," said Rath. Levy is also likely to push for the Trans-Israel Highway to be placed in his ministry's control. "There are more important things that

need to be settled first," said Rat. Agriculture Minister Rafael Eitan, mean-

while, has made it clear he wants the Water

Commission back in his domain. But Sharon

has been working closely with Water

Commissioner Meir Ben-Meir and his team.

Under his auspices, the commission has suc-

cessfully taken forward the water agreement

with Jordan, the second phase of which is to be

Eitan, though, is concerned with the

Treasury's continued efforts to increase water

prices to farmers. His own director-general,

Danny Krichman, is refusing to deal with the

Treasury until it backs down from its price

Controlling the Water Commission would

implemented over the next three years.

port-related issues."

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MKs: Ariel Sharon will cause serious damage

By DAVID HARRIS

Coalition and opposition MKs say they fear for the economy if National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon is handed the

Treasury portfolio. In no way is Sharon fit to be finance minister," said Avraham Poraz (Shinui). "On the three occasions he has held economic portfolios he caused great dam-

age." Sharon has previously held the Agriculture, Industry and Trade, and Construction and Housing portfolios. "Sharon is not a liberal, which is

exactly what our economy needs," said Poraz. "The less the state is involved in the economy the better."

As agriculture minister he gave too much support to farmers, in Industry be opposed the 'exposure

NEWSLINE

With Yoash Tsiddon, a former Tsomet MK and one of four authors of the Direct Elections Law.

By HERB KEINON

Under the Law for Direct Elections of the Prime Minister, 61 MKs must vote no-confidence to hring down the government, and then both the prime minister and the MKs must stand for reelection. Do you still think this is a good system?

It is a superb tool that is proving itself every day. If we were under the previous system, the last election results would not have permitted a government to exist. Had the previous system still been intact, Labor would bave been given the nod to form a government, since they won the most Knesset seats. I helieve that, under the pressures of the circumstances, that government would not have lasted a month.

The system is a good tool, but it is not meant as a replacemeot for leadership. It provides more stability, since the gov-erroment can't be brought down every Sunday and Thursday. It is a tool that can be likened to a Ferrari. If you put a poor driver in a Ferrari, be will be accident

What I wanted, first and foreprone. most, was to create a situation where the head of the governmeot has the authority. If he has the authority, he creates stability, even when the weath-

er gets rough. And with stability you have bener government. If you can run a government under the present circum-stances - so called "peace negotiations," high expectations of both Jews and Arabs, large inflation, a party that dis-integrated and had to be put back together again, and a host of other troubles - then it

sbows the system is good. Critics say there may now be too much stability, that it is too difficult to bring down a government. Is there any validity to this?

Absolutely not. The government should fall on issues over which the MKs are also willing to lose their seats. I left Tsomet because I didn't agree with the policy. If you want to bring down the government, you should also be willing to bear

the risks. Is there any chance of the government falling today? Of course nol. There are not going to be 61 MKs who want to face new elections. Gesher wants one more minister, the NRP wants (Ya'acov) Ne'cman back in office, Yisrael Ba'aliya wants more money, but they are not going to want to go back to elections over these issues. And these issues should not be the reasons for bringing down a government.

of the domestic economy to com-petioon, and in Construction he built houses in the Galilee and Negev that no one wanted, while there was too much demand in the central area, added Poraz.

"The only good thing he has done as nadonal infrastructure minister is that he is fully behind the Ronen Report, which recommends the transfer of property ownership from the state to private ciozens," concluded Poraz.

Sharon's appointment would be extremely problematic, according to Ophir Pines (Labor). "The budget and Sharon have proven in the past not to be the best of friends." Former Finance Minister Avraham Shohat (Labor) said on the basis of Sharon's track record he would not make a successful replacement for Dan Meridor, but expressed hope that he will acl appropriately, particularly with regard to fiscal restraint and the wider macroeconomic picture.

Meir Sheetrit (Likud), however, did express his full support behind Sharon, saying he has the experience necessary to do a good job. These and other MKs have been

suggesting alternative candidates for the Treasury portfolio. The list includes ex-Treasury director-general Ya'acov Ne'emao, former ministers Moshe Arens and Moshe Nissim, MK Silvan Shalom, a variety of academic economists, leading businessmen Eli Hurvitz and Stef Wertheimer, and Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel -Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's original choice for the job last year.

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By DAVID HARRIS

Ariel Sharon has indicated that, if he is appointed finance minister, he would want to transfer the Israel Lands Administration to the Treasury.

Replying to a question at a political meeting last Thursday, Sharon said it would be a good idea to move the ILA to the Treasury. This was dismissed as "a joke," by his spokesman Ra'anan Gissin.

But it is presumed Sharon is keen to keep control of the ILA, as he attempts to push through radical land reforms.

It has also been suggested that, if appointed, Sbaron will demand the return of the Government Companies Authority to the

Treasury. The authority was moved into the Prime Minister's Office after Binyamin Netanyahu was elected. The authority is responsible for some 150 state-run companies, each with two government-appointed board members. The authority is currently working on the privatization of a number of state assets.

With Sharon's anocipated departure from the National Infrastructure Ministry, Transport Minister Yitzhak Levy is likely to press for the return of key transport-related bodies to his ministry's control.

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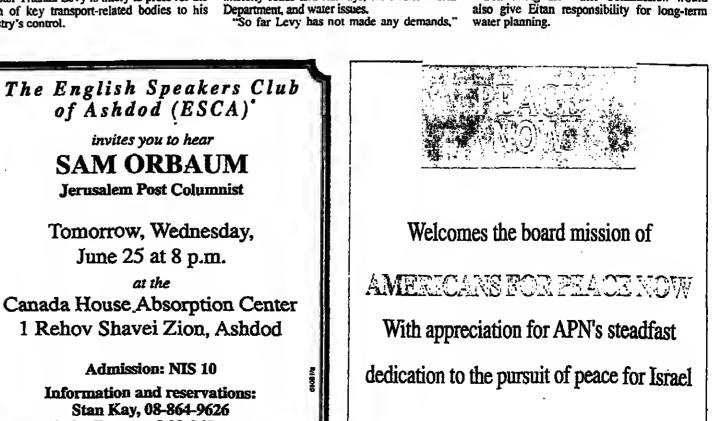
Sharon demanding

to take ILA to Treasury

The National Infrastructure Ministry, which Energy Ministry, and also took responsibility for intercity roads and railways, the Public Works Department, and water issues.

Ariel Sharon

was created especially for Sharon, absorbed the



increase demands.

"So far Levy has not made any demands,"

NEWS

and the prime minister.

about."

Tuesday, June 24, 1997 The Jerusalem Post

Head of Druse delegation relays message from Arafat to PM

By DAVID RUDGE

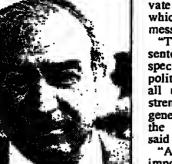
Assad Assad, who headed a delegation of Druse which met with Yasser Arafat in Ramallah vesterday, said he had conveyed a message 10 the PA chairman from Prime Minister Binyamin Nelanvahu.

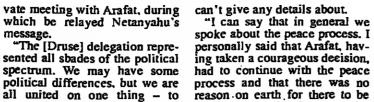
Assad. an adviser to Netanvahu on Druse affairs and other matters, was due to meet the prime minister last night to relay Arafai's response. The former MK said Arafat also had given him a message which he would convey to Netanyahu, although he declined to reveal any details.

The delegation of Druse local council heads, academics, and

Assad Assad (TPPA)

businessmen, met for over an hour with Arafat and senior PA officials. Assad also had a pri-





strengthen the peace process in general and between Israel and the Palestinians in particular," said Assad. "Arafat also saw this as an important delegation, as evidenced by the long amount of

time he gave for the meeting. "I had a personal conversation with him during which I concould discuss issues, but probveyed a message from the prime lems were hest solved in negotiminister and he gave a message ations between the leaders themfor the prime minister, which I selves.

He was asked wbether after bis meeting with the PA chairman, spoke about the peace process. I he was more optimistic about the prospects of a mini-summit personally said that Arafat, havor a direct meeting between ing taken a courageous decision, Netanyahn and Arafat. had to continue with the peace process and that there was no

"This depends on decisions of both sides. There are also outreason on earth for there to be side factors, such as the US and any disconnection between him Egypt, which are working on "Mediation is important, but this. I hope the final outcome will be a meeting [between Netanyahu and Arafat]," Assad the very best mediation is to meet and speak directly face-toface and this could solve the replied. problems that are being talked

"I certainly have a better feeling after this meeting and I believe that both the prime min-Assad said that delegations ister and the Palestinians want to get out of the present deadlock and continue the peace process," be added.

Kleiner refuses to be questioned in Ben-Ari case

By RAINE MARCUS

Gesher MK Michael Kleiner said yesterday he is not prepared to give evidence voluntarily in the Zvi Ben-Ari (formerly known as

Gregory Lemer) case. Kleiner said other MKs who have been asked by police to give statements had direct contact with Ben-Ari regarding donations to party-affiliated non-profit associations.

However, said Kleiner, he had no contact with Ben-Ari and therefore would refuse to give evidence.

Under normal circumstances, people who refuse to give evidence when summoned may be

questioned under caution, namely as suspects.

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The same applies to those who lie or conceal details relevant to an investigation.

However, procedures regarding MKs - who must be cleared for questioning by the Knesset Speaker – are not clear, and Kleiner's statemenis yesierday could set a precedent.

Among those expected to be summoned include MKs Ehud Barak, Haim Ramon, Roman Bronfman, Sofa Landver, and Yuri Stern.

Ministers Natan Sbaransky and Yuli Edelstein also expect to be summoned.

Ministry to set up school trips bureau

By Jerusalem Post Staff

A trips administration will be set up in the Education Ministry, with satellite staffs in each of the ministry's district offices, to assure that school trips adhere to the highest possible levels of safety and security, the ministry announced yesterday.

This was one of the main recommendations of the committee headed by Meir Elran, appointed by Education Minister Zevulun Hammer, to apply the findings of the Pressler Commission, which examined the issue of school trips following the March 13 massacre of seven schoolgirls at Naharayim. The ministry is also adopting the

other Eiran Committee recommendations, which include: · appointing a central supervisor

• set up a "situation room" to deal with problems on trips as they arise; · increasing supervision of trips, so that ministry supervisors would be present on some 15% of trips.

The ministry will also follow the commission's recommendations for new criteria that trip companies must meet to run school trips.

No Ben-Gal recall in Sharon libel suit

Tel Aviv District Court yesterday denied Ha'aretz's request to recall Avigdor Ben-Gal to the witness stand in National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon's libel suit against the paper.

"Avigdor Ben-Gal didn't see fit to reveal to the court that his meeting with Sharon recently, in connection with his evidence, was in the framework of a joint trip in Russia and that he has a private interest in the gas business, which Sharon dealt with effectively with Russia in his role as a minister in the govemment." Ha' aretz said in its petition.

Sharon is suing the paper for a May 1991 article which claimed he inten-tionally misled then-prime minister Menachem Begin and the cabinet during Operation Peace for Galilee. On Sunday, Ben-Gal told the court he is convinced that, during the Lebanon war, Sharon acted in coordination with Begin and with the approval of the government.

That same day, Globes printed an article detailing Ben-Gal's business relations with Sharon and Ben-Gal said on TV that five years ago he had revised his evaluation of Sharon's role in the war, Ha' aretz said in its petition. (Itim)

Israeli jails.

implement the regulations.

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Mothers call for Lebanon withdrawal

A group of mothers of IDF soldiers serving in Lebanon demonstrates in Tel Aviv yesterday, demanding the government withdraw from the security zone. Eleven soldiers have been killed in Lebanon so far this year. (Ilan Ossendryver/Israel Sun)

demolition of Israeli **Arab homes**

By DAVID RUDGE

More than 300 people demonstrated outside the Misgav regional council offices in Galilee yesterday to protest the demolition of bomes in both unrecognized Arab settlements and those which have been granted official status.

The demonstrators earlier staged a noisy protest outside the offices of the local planning and building commission.

Some tried to enter the offices, but were prevented by police.

The protest, which followed the demolition last Wednesday of a structure in Kamaneh village near Karmiel, was organized by the Association of Forty group.

This organization was established 10 years ago to fight for the rights of residents of unrecognized Arab settlements.

Association chairman Mobammed Abu Hajah, who took part in the demonstration, accused the government of failing to honor the previous administration's decision to recognize eight of the larger

Arab villages.

Protests at

AT THE KNESSET

Israelis serving prison terms abroad to complete sentences here

By LIAT COLLINS

From October, Israelis serving prison sentences in various countries will be able to return here and serve the rest of their terms in a local jail.

Under the same regulations, endorsed yesterday by the Knesset Law Committee, foreigners sentenced here can go back to their own countries to serve the remainder of their sentences.

According to the data presented to the committee, some 300 Party) said the regulations, and the

whom 140 have been tried and another dimension to humanitarisentenced. an legislation in Israel.

There are currently 30 foreign He said Israelis abroad often citizens serving sentences in serve their sentences under difficult conditions whereas here conditions meet the requirements of A special committee comprising

human dignity. members of the Justice and Foreign Affairs Ministries will Yahalom said he sees the reguladeal with signing the necessary tions as a continuation of the tradiagreements with other countries to tional Jewish principle of "redeeming captives." Committee chairman Shaul

The regulations will affect only people who were Israeli nationals

02-6241282 : 02-6241212

necessary agreement. basis.

Thailand, the US, and several European countries are likely to sign the agreement in the near future.

Female journalists paid

less than men A subcommittee of the Knesset Committee on the Status of Women, which yesterday discussed the difference in earnings in the media, discovered large at the time of the offense and are gaps, mainly in the printed press

department

RI TATATA AND

women are used on a freelance

MK Anat Maor (Meretz), who chairs the subcommittee, said, "In. a situation in which the Labor and Social Affairs Ministry has one inspector to enforce the Equal Opportunities Law, it's not surprising that women are being dreadfully exploited."

MK Yael Dayan (Labor) asked the television heads why there aren't any women hosting talk shows

Yehiel Limor, from Tel Aviv University's media department, noted that increasing numbers of women have entered the media field since the 1980, and today between 60 percent and 70 percent

Israelis are imprisoned abroad, of law they were based on, add serving in countries which sign the and Channel 2, where more of the 2,000 media students are **women**.

Lieberman: Acre to receive Zone A status

The city of Acre will receive Zone A preferential status from January 1998, Avigdor Lieberman, director-general of the Prime Minister's Office, told the Knesset Interior Committee yesterday.

Acre Mayor Eli De Castro said the town suffered from difficult socioeconomic conditions and that part of its infrastructure is a remnant of the Ottoman period.

MK David Azoulai (Sbas), an Acre resident, said, he had been encouraged to move there by incentives that he boped would once again he made available.

He stressed that no infrastructure, including basic amenities such as electricity, water, sewerage networks, or access roads, had heen established since the decision to recognize the eight settlements.

Instead, homes had been demolished in recognized villages and orders are pending against structures in other settlements, including those with no official status, Hajah charged.

The Interior Ministry said outline plans for the eight villages have not been approved, therefore making any new building in these settlements is illegal.

The ministry did not give a reason for the delay in formulating and approving the plans.

Officials of the Misgav local planning and building commission and the regional council met with demonstrators, promising them their complaints would be raised with the Interior Ministry.

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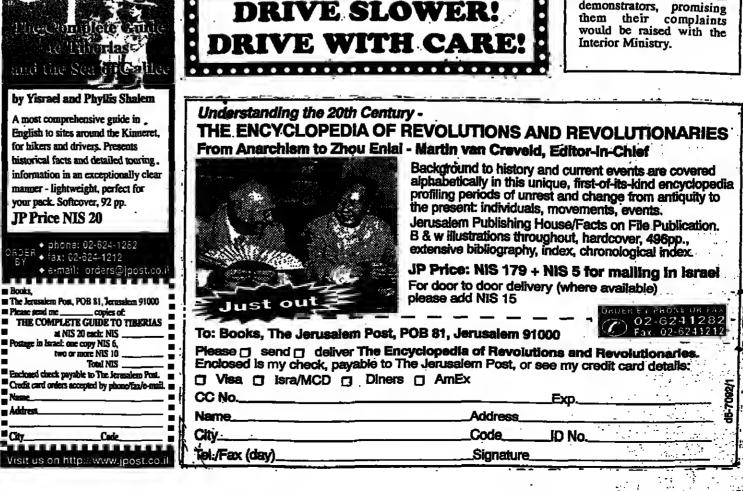
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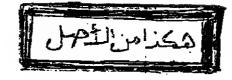
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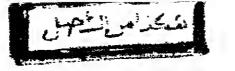
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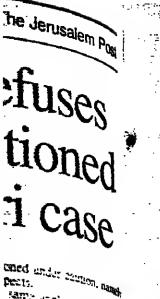
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Protests at

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By DAVID RUDGE

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The Jerusalem Post Tuesday, June 24, 1997

WORLD NEWS

Chinese troops get OK for early Hong Kong arrival

HONG KONG (Reuter) ____ Britain yesterday howed to Chinese demands to send 500 armed troops into Hong Kong before colonial rule ends, defusing a row between London and Beijing over the July 1 handover. The troops would drive into Hong

Kong at 9.00 p.m. on June 30, three hours earlier than scheduled, to be in place for the British territory's midnight return to China. London had resisted the move

when a process capacited in the Restrict include Miks Each Marger Strate Sans Ebel C. Harr, Harron, Ross Smar, Sans Lands r, and in but yielded after protracted arguments by Beijing that the forces were needed to ensure the security of Chinese President Jiang Zemin miters weine Stranski a at the handover. Free state a super by

A. British government spokesman put a brave face on the climbdown which pointed np the increasing irrelevance of British views with only seven days left until its 156-year rule ends.

This is not a concession. As diplomats we try to come up with solutions," the spokesman said. But one diplomatic analyst close

to the negotiations said: "This shows Britain has no cards left to play against China in Hong Kong. Britain had to face reality." Almost 200 unarmed People's Liberation Army (PLA) troops are already in Hong Kong to set up facilities for the main military force.

More than 300 people China's Xinhua news agency antonstrated patiente announced that Britain had agreed herran transmal council that 509 troops in 39 passenger Athen in Galiler years vehicles could enter Hong Kong. ing to stoked the demonst China's representative on the Sino-British Joint Liaison Group, ten er annes a bib avercegation Area with Chen Zuo'er, said the troops nents and these was,

would carry light weapons rifles and side arms - and not travel in armored vehicles. "The purpose of the agreement

concluded by the two sides is to ensure that the PLA be able to per-

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Premier Vo Van Kiet, President Le Duc Anh and Communist Party

form its defence duties in Hong Kong from zero bour of July 1," a Chinese official said.

As the stock market waxed and British rule waned, the last colonial governor, Chris Patten, said the territory was like a Rolls-Royce limousine and China should not tinker with it.

At the start of the final week before communist China takes rampantly capitalist Hong Kong back, the Hang Seng Index hit a new record high, top executives exnded business confidence and democratic activists kept up the pressure for political freedom.

Patten kept up to the last his pleas for China to rule with a light touch. "I remain of the view that if you

are given a Rolls-Royce, it doesn't make much sense to spend weeks or months tinkering under the bon-net with the engine. You just turn on the ignition keys and off you pop," he told a business conference. Patten said it was one of Hong

Kong's great strengths that "We don't use the law in more or less dubious ways to browbeat and silence onr critics." The chief United States representative in Hong Kong also advised Beijing to adopt a hands-off rule.

Consul-General Boucher said the US had important trade and other ties to Hong Kong which it wanted to continue. "Whether they will in fact con-

tinue and grow depends on to what extent Hong Kong goes on being Hong Kong," Boucher said.

Chee-hwa, not to be an antocrat.

who has absolute power," he told the Chinese-language paper Ming Pao.

G7 summit ends, achieves little

DENVER - Leaders of the world's rich industrial nations have ended a summit that gave Russia new clout in their exclusive club and celebrated a sound global economy, but otherwise broke little new ground. Leaders of the Group of Seven - the United States, Germany, Britain, France, Canada, Italy and Japan - embraced Russia as everything but their eighth member as they ended their 23rd annual summit in this Rocky Mountain city.

"We now feel stronger because we have Russia as a partner," said President Bill Clinton in a concluding news conference. Though Russia was excluded from a single session on economic issues, Clinton predicted the dividing line between Moscow and the group would be increasingly blurred.

German Chancellor Helmut Kohi said Russia at some stage will host a summit of the eight while French President Jacques Chirac spoke of a "Group of Eight" The summit leaders said the global economy was in good shape hut warned that there may be problems ahead.

The final communique expressed concern over Japanese trade surpluses and the high

unemployment in continental Europe and said the United States must prevent its booming economy spinning into inflation.

But it failed to achieve a breakthrough on controlling pollutants blamed for global warming - the most contentious issue at the low-key and largely scripted gathering - and could not tackle two disputes involving NATO.

European leaders appealed to the United States to agree to a 15 percent reduction in pollutant gases blamed for global warming by 2010. The US side would not agree to a specific target on this and left it over for wrangling at Earth Summit II, which opened yesterday in New York.

Clinton and his European partners remain sharply divided over how many new members to bring into NATO. Clinton could not put NATO in his win column, though. He wants to contain expansion of the alliance to Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic for now. There probably is majority support in NATO 10 also add Romania or Slovenia, or both.

"I do not expect it to do lasting damage to the alliance," Clinton said of the dispute. New British Prime Minister Tony Blair was dismayed with the formalities and sprawling communiques he found at his

first G7 summit, wants to get back to hasics, Officials said yesterday Blair, who will host next year's summit in Birmingham, is determined that it should be a chance for unscripted dialogue on just two main issues - jobs and the fight against organized cnme. The G7 summit in Denver was the first for

Blair, who was elected in a landslide on May 1, and he wants the Birmingham gathering to be less of what one of his senior aides called " a glorified photo call."

"What is important at these summits is that we focus on what we can get done. We must get specifics out of it," Blair told a closing news conference.

The three days of endless talking, fivecourse dinners and page after page of offi-cial communiques left a goodly share of winners and losers. Amoog the winners:

- Clinton scored big because of the US economic boom, which allowed him to boast about the lowest unemployment in 24 years. But other leaders were not eager to sign on 10 the American model with its deficit cuning and painful corporate restructuring.

- Yeltsin, despite having to skip the Saturday night entertainment because of fatigue, hasked in the praise of the other leaders, who embraced him as a full partic-

ipant in the summit club.

- Denver was hailed by Clinton for its prowess at attracting high-tech industries, and foreign leaders seemed to have fun with all the Western hospitality. Japanese Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto said he liked dining on buffalo but did not think his countrymen would go for the rattlesnake. And the losers:

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Chirac came into Denver only three weeks after his party suffered a severe election setback was peeved by praise heaped on the American economic model. "We shouldn's adopt the US model," he snapped. "Everyone has their own model."

- China was on the receiving end of a stern warning in the final communique that it had better live up to commitments to protect "fundamental freedoms" when it takes over Hong Kong on July I. No leader here was willing to predict that China, the world's second-largest economy by some measurements, would soon become the ninth member of the summit club.

Environmentalists favored the tougher European language on global warming and deforestation hut lost out when the US position for a watered down commitment prevailed in the final communique.

> French pedophile probe raises storm

BORDEAUX, France (AP) -Amid growing criticism of a police child pornography probe, the family of a man who killed himself after police questioning intends to sue, the family lawyer said vesterday.

Four suspects committed suicide in the wake of a massive police raid last week that led to more than 800 people being questioned, 209 of whom were placed under formal investigation. The family of a 39-year-old

school teacher who jumped off a bridge in this southwestern city Saturday wants an inquiry into police methods and the alleged leak of confidential legal information, their lawyer, Benoit Ducos-Ader, said.

Ducos-Ader said he will sue. claiming "violation of the presumption of innocence and putting others in danger." The "others" refers to the teacher who

Top Vietnam leaders to quit

Kiet, 74, and Anh, 76, will both HANOI (AP) - Victnam's ruling troika - the premier, president vacate their offices when they give and Communist Party leader up their legislature seats. will collectively step down from the National Assembly to make Vietnam's president and premiet must be members of the National way for new leadership, a govern-Assembly.

The resignations were based on individual decisions and not by a government or Communist Party push to change the country

Richard

Patten urged his successor, 60year-old shipping billionaire Tung

"In Hong Kong, there is no one

General Secretary Do Muoi will not run for reelection when Vietnam goes to the polls in July, National Assembly spokesman Nguyen Sy Dung said.

Typically the premicrship and presidency are replaced at the same time in Vietnam, where the Communist Party aims to use the positions to strike a halance between conservative and reformist interests in the government.

In the current leadership, Kiet, a southern reformer, countered Anh's communist orthodoxy.

Muoi, 80, will retain his party leadership --- an appointed posi-tion independent of the National Assembly.

ership, Dung said. The three leaders were asked by the central government and

many officials to run again for the National Assembly," Dung said. "They all requested to stay out right from the beginning." It was unclear who might succeed either Kiet or Anh. They will not completely with-

draw from politics, each retaining a seat in the policy-maker Polithuro. Muoi is also a member of the Politburo.

"The reason given for their stepping down was that all three are becoming old and they would like to focus on Party affairs," Dung said.

US freight trains in fiery collision

DEVINE, Texas (AP) - Two freight trains collided head-on, killing three people - one an apparent bystander - and causing an explosion and diesel fuel fire that was still smoldering yesterday morning. The wreck destroyed a railroad bridge and caused 29 cars to derail,

triggering the explosion near this town about 50 km southwest of San Antonio. The fire, extinguished early yesterday, hurned 56,800 liters of diesel fuel in the trains' five engines.

There were reports a vehicle was trapped between the trains, but officials were not able to check right away because of the fire.

Authorities said neither train was carrying hazardous cargo.

Each train - one headed from Laredo to near Baton Rouge, Louisiana, the other traveling from Chicago to Mexico --- was carrying two Union Pacific employees.

Railroad spokesman Mark Davis said two workers were killed when the trains crashed around 11 p.m. Sunday. The third victim was not an authorized train passenger and could have been in a vehicle or walking by the tracks.

A third employee was in critical condition at Brooke Army Medical Center with burns, and the fourth was treated and released.

"It looked like an explosion like in the movies," said Cayetano Guerrero, who was driving nearby when the trains crashed, "It looked like the sunset coming up. That's how bright it was."

Davis said investigators did not know the cause of the crash or how fast the trains were traveling. They were looking for equipment similar to an airplane's black box that may provide some information about what led up to the accident, he added.

Not yet Babylon 5

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The passageway - called a node — arrived on an Air Force C-5 cargo plane early yesterday from the station factory of prime contractor Boeing Co. at Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama. Another plane brought ground support equipment.

The not-yet-completed node will be the second component and propulsion tug, in June 1998.

launched for the international space station, the latest version of a NASA-led project dating back to 1984.

NASA plans to launch the node on space shuttle Endeavour in July 1998. That's seven months later than planned because of Russian delays in building a subsequent part of the international space station, called a service module, containing vital life-support systems.

The Russians are to launch the first station component, a power ALIGN COMPANY PART 1 1 8 81

Cambodian Co-Premier Prince Norodom Ranariddh greets supporters yesterday as he arrives in Borset, south of Phnom Penh. Ranariddb insisted hated leader Pol Pot is still alive and said those claiming be is dead are afraid of what the Khmer Rouge chief might reveal in court. (Reuter)

Premier expects resistance to Pol Pot trial

KOMPONG SPEU (AP) - One of Cambodia's co-premiers urged a royal pardon yesterday for a Khmer Rouge leader as a reward for helping capture Pol Pot, the more notorious rebel leader.

The proposal hy First Premier Prince Norodom Ranariddh to pardon Khieu Samphan -- considered the milder of the two Khmer Rouge leaders - is certain to be opposed by the other co-premier, Hun Sen.

International efforts have begun to bring Pol Pot, 69, to justice for heading a regime that caused the deaths of up to 2 million people from 1975 to 1979, in a frenzied bid to tura Cambodia into a vast agrarian labor camp. But it is unclear when Pol Pot

will be turned over. Gen. Nhek Bunchhay, the govemment's chief negotiator with the

Khmer Rouge, has said he saw an aged, weakened Pol Pot in custody at the guerrillas' Anlong Veng base in a northern Cambodia jungle.

No one has seen Pol Pol since 1979, except for Khmer Rouge rebels and allies in their guerrilla war against the government in the 1980s — including officials from Thailand and China.

Khieu Samphan and about 1,000 guerrillas who had remained loyal to Pol Pot turned against him when he executed an old comrade. Son Sen, two weeks ago. Khieu Samphan has pledged to back an electoral alliance led by the

But King Norodom Sihanouk, Ranariddh's father, has said he will not pardon Khmer Rouge leaders unless both premiers agree.

Tensions in the ruling coalition are high and crupted in a firefight last week that left two of the prince's bodyguards dead.

Last year, Sihanouk pardoned leng Sary, Pol Pol's one-time defense minister and bruther-inlaw, in exchange for leading the initial defections of 10,000 guerrillas. The defections were the begin-

ning of the end for the Khmer Rouge. Anlong Veng is believed to be their last stronghold.

"leng Sary was granted an amnesty so why not Khieu Samphan? He did calch Pol Pot," Ranariddh said,

Deciding the future of Khieu Samphan and other Khmer Rouge leaders holding Pol Pot — espe-cially the guerrilla commander Ta Mok, known as "The Butcher" for his brutality - are likely to be key in determining when Pol Pot will be turned over.

Ranariddh told reporters at Kompong Spen, 50 km south of Phnom Penh, that the allies who helped Pol Pot survive as a guerrilla leader for 18 years after his ouster would prefer to see him

"You see, maybe Pol Pot would say something not very nice to them," he said. "Pol Pot will say, 'Those people were involved,' or, Those countries were supporting me for years'." Though Ranariddh

The action is a victory for

named no one, he was clearly taking a swipe at Hun Sen and officials in his formerly communist Cambodian People's Party, many of whom once belonged to the Khmer Rouge.

They also appeared directed at neighboring Thailand, a former Khmer Rouge rear base and market for logs and gems from their territory, and China, formerly the group's higgest arms supplier and one-time ideological mentor.

Ranariddh and Hun Sen have petitioned the Uoited Nations to create an international tribunal to try Pol Pot. That would need approval hy the UN Security Council where China has veto power.

The United States has asked Canada to take a lead role in hringing Pol Pot out of Cambodia to face judgment under a Canadian law allowing for prosecution of crimes against humanity outside its borders. Denmark, Switzerland and Spain have similar laws.

According to the lawyer, the victim had no connection with the traffic of pornographic videos featuring children. "Nothing justifies throwing a

committed suicide

man into the jaws of public opinion before a trial takes place in full respect of his rights," Ducos-Ader told Le Figaro newspaper.

The man was reportedly found in possessioo of thousands of photos of nude adolescents. The victim had been placed under formal investigation for corrupting minors and possessing pornographic videos featuring children.

Asked about the recent spate of suicides apparently connected to the police operation, Justice Minister Elisabeth Guigou defended the raids, saying priority must be given to protecting children.

Three people questioned were found hanged on Thursday, in Tulle in central France, in Givors near Lyon and in Saint-martin d'Heres in the southeast. No formal link was immediately established between the suicides and the inquiry.

The president of the French Human Rights Association, lawyer Henri Leclerc, also attacked the public reaction to the child poroography operation.

"At the moment, we are living in a witch hunt atmosphere." Leclerc said in an interview with vesterday's edition of Liberation newspaper. "Justice needs to be substituted for lynching," he added.

Paula Jones's lawyer quits

"totally innocent."

by anomey-client privilege.

Arkansas.

nation of Paula Jones' first lawyer and other developments could be used to challenge her credibility in a sexual barassment lawsuit against President Clinton, the Legal Times reports.

The attorney, Daniel Traylor, told the newspaper in an interview published yesterday that he doesn't recall Jones ever telling him of key details she later provided about her alleged meeting with Clinton in a Little Rock, Arkansas, hotel room on May 8, 1991.

Specifically, Traylor said be doesn't recall her ever mentioning distinguishing characteristics in Cliuton's genital area that were obvious to Jones." That detail was included in Jones' May 6, 1994, complaint, three years after the alleged incident.

Asked why he was resigning from the case, Traylor said, "It's just time to move on. This is painful to everybody. I wish them well." Traylor said he will seek permission from the judge over-

WASHINGTON - The resig- seeing the barassment suit to Whitewater prosecutor Kenneth resign as her lawyer.

The Legal Times also said that Carol Phillips, a former receptionist in then-Gov. Clinton's office, said Jones came by the office the to court papers, he has said Mrs. day after the alleged sexual episode and told her "she went up Clinton is a "central figure" in his to meet the governor and they met investigation. in a room and they just talked." At issue were conversations Mirs. Phillips said that Jones spoke in "a Clinton had with White House happy and excited manner" and Phillips concluded that Jones'

lawyers and her private attorneys meeting with Clinton had been Meanwhile, the US Supreme Court refused yesterday to free of Clinton's presidency. White House lawyers from having

The White House expressed dismay.

"We continue to believe that gov-Clinton to Whitewater prosecutors. emment lawyers must be allowed to have confidential discussions with their clients if they are to be able to provide candid and effective legal advice and we regret that Monday's action means the the court has decided not to resolve notes must be surrendered to a this important issue," White House federal grand jury in Little Rock, counsel Charles Ruff said.

Former FBI agent gets 27 years for spying

ALEXANDRIA, Virginia (AP) - Former FB1 agent Earl Pitts was sentenced Monday to 27 years in prison for spying for Moscow.

Prosecutors had requested nearly 25 years. But US District Judge T.S. Ellis told Pins his crimes were especially severe and said Pins has yet to fully apologize.

He acknowledged spying for the Russians before and after the fall of the Soviet Union.

Pitts, the second FBI agent ever caught spying, pleaded guilty in February to conspiring and attempting to commit espionage. The plea spared Pitts, 44, a possible life prison on the 12 charges he originally faced. Pitts, looking thin and disheveled, told the judge he understands how

deeply he betrayed his country and his profession. "I do not wish to excuse or explain away my actions. What I did was

Widow of Malcolm X dies

NEW YORK, June 23 (Reuter) authorities said.

The fire was allegedly set by her slain civil rights leader Malcolm troubled 12-year-old grandson, who X, died on Monday after being was staying with his grandmother at burned in a fire last month, her suburban New York apartment.

- Betty Shabazz, the widow of

(News agencies)

to turn over notes of their conversations with Hillary Rodham The court, without comment, rejected the White House's argument that the notes are protected

concerning her role in Whitewater. wrong, pure and simple," he said.

that has led to a wide-ranging investigation. It has lasted through most

a failed Arkansus real estate venture

Starr, who had urged the high court not to review the case, saying it "would delay a highly sensitive criminal investigation."According

dead than put on trial.

prince.

OPINION

> ecent years have witnessed

Realized use of the parliamentary super-

uled in the Knesset today, no-con-

down the government, why does it

bother? Because the no-confi-

dence vote is one way an opposi-

tion can prove to itself that it is

still alive if not exactly kicking,

hope springs eternal; and who is to

say that a tiny crack here or there.

will not suddenly hreak apart into

irreparable coalition rupture that

might actually cause the govern-

Yet the chances of a no-confi-

dence vote achieving its aim are

even poorer since direct election

of the prime minister changed the

rules of the political game. No

longer is it enough simply to win a

mere majority; an absolute major-

compel the premier to resign and

go to new elections. But then the

Knesset itself faces the same fate,

with the MKs who booted the PM

out looking at the risky prospect

of premature elections. Which makes the success of the entire

Only if a motion of no confi-

dence in the prime minister wins a

nigh-impossible majority of 80

must the premier resign and sub-

enterprise highly unlikely.

waste of everybody's time.

with elections years away. And then, in politics as in life.

ment to fall?

Tuesday, June 24, 1997 The Jerusalem Post



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EDITORIAL OFFICES AND ADMINISTRATION The Jerusalem Post Building, P.O. Box 81, Romema, Jerusalem 91000 Telephone 02-531-5666, Fax 02-538-9527. CIRCULATION-02-531-5610, Fax 02-538-9017. ADVERTISING - 02-531-5608, 02-531-5637-40 Fax 02-538-8408. TEL AVIV: 5 Rehov Hamasger, POB 28398 (61283) Telephone 03-6390333, Fax 6390277. HAIFA 20 Nordau, Hadar Hacarmel, Telephone 04-8623166, Published daily except Sanrday, in Jerusalem, Israel by The Palestine Post Ltd. Printed by The Jerusalem Post Press in Jerusalem. Registered at the G.P.O. © The Jerusalem Post 1997, Reproduction, or storage in a retrieval system. or in any other form, is prohibited without permission. Editors: 1932-1955 GERSHON AGRON, 1955-1974 TED LURIE, 1974-1975 LEA BEN-DOR, 1975-1989 ARI RATH and ERWIN FRENKEL, 1990-1992 N. DAVID GROSS, 1902. 1996 DAVID BAR-ILLAN 1992-1996 DAVID BAR-ILLAN

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Buying more time

Thanks to a last-minute deal with coalition partner Yisrael Ba'aliya - which will cost

more than NIS 200 million - Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's government will survive the no-confidence vote in the Knesset today. The question remains whether a government that is barely surviving can or should survive for long.

One year since its formation, the Netanyahu government seems to bave given up on its initial goal of "excellence" and settled for mere survival. In fact, the government seems to be on an "anti-excellence" kick: Tzahi Hanegbi rides high, while Dan Meridor finds bimself out of the government.

Today, Haneghi - whom Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein and State Attorney Edna Arbel found had violated ethical norms without reaching the threshold for indictment - will defend the government in the Knesset. Communications Minister Limor Livnat added her name to the growing list of key coalition members frustrated with Netanyahu by resigning ber position on Saturday as cabinet liaison to the Knesset.

On Sunday, former prime minister Yitzhak Sbamir was so furious with Netanyahu that be would not shake his band and bad to be convinced to sit on the same podium at a memorial service for fighters on the Altalena. Sbamir bas gone so far as to say that he would not vote again for Netanyahu, and is reportedly looking for an alternative candidate to lead the Likud. The dissatisfaction within the coalition at Netanyahu's handling of the government is so great that the opposition seems almost redundant. In addition to Sbamir and former ministers Dan Meridor and Ze'ev Begin, half The Third Way's four-MK faction want new elections, and Natan Sharansky's Yisrael Ba'aliya may still have one foot outside the coalition.

The Gesber and Tsomet factions have opened discussions regarding the formation of an alliance that would compete with the Likud. And the religious parties are demanding that former justice minister Ya'acov Ne'eman be returned to bis post following his acquittal.

The most striking thing about this dissatisfaction is that most of it is not directed at the govemment's policies, but at its dysfunctional governing. The measure of this is that it is not just historic rivals of Netanyahu, such as Begin and Meridor, who are disillusioned, but personal friends and political comrades, such Sharansky and Livnai Rather than address the problems of how the government operates. Netanyahu is acting as if eliminate his opponents, and instead lead in a the problem is the composition of his cabinet. It manner worthy of their, and the rest of Israel's. is not.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

their behalf.

No government can operate properly if its ministers feel they are constantly being held responsible for decisions that are made bapbazardly without a real chance for them to participate in the process. This is not to say that the ideal is for ministers to be all-powerful - hut this is not the only alternative to one-man rule.

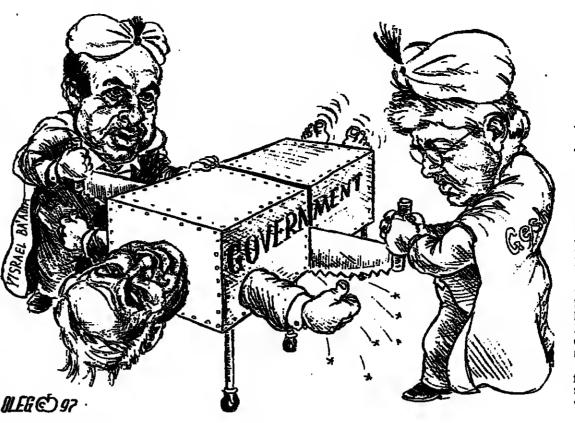
It is a mystery wby Netanyahu, with his famed powers of persuasion, seems instead to prefer to rely upon political strong-arm tactics. The possible inclusion of Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon by Netanyahu in his inner circle by elevating bim to finance minister is a high-stakes gamble, both on the peace process and the economy. In the best case, Sharon's leadership and government experience could improve the decision making process and lend right-wing legitimacy to pragmatic decisions. In the economic realm, his "bulldozer" style could belp speed up privatization and economic reform.

However, the gamble will fail miserably if, as many observers expect, Sbaron plows money into ideologically driven settlement activity, and generally reverts to the statist instincts displayed in his last stint as minister of industry and trade.

In any case, it seems it has taken a year for Netanyahu to conclude that keeping Sharon out of the loop can cause more damage than it averts. Whatever happens, it is clear that the indulgence of the entire political system, with Netanyahu in the lead, in an orgy of political infighting and coalition politics when there is a serious breakdown in the peace process is highly irresponsible.

True, the Israeli political process should not grind to a halt every time Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat decides to be intransigent. But even though Arafat is continuing to make unreasonable demands; the current stalemate demands attention that Netanyahu cannot give while be is putting out political fires of his own making.

By choosing to settle political scores and reshuffle the government now, Netanyahu has indulged in an exercise that is not only a dangerous distraction from the nation's business, but could leave him weaker than ever. If Netanyahu had delivered on the government of excellence that he had promised, he would not have to be going through political boops to shore up his power now. By driving out ministers with a reputation for integrity and commitment to principle, Netanyahu has dealt his own



Alive and kicking

YOSEF GOELL

directly-elected premier and the weapon known as the no-confidence vote. This might seem Knesset, and, of perhaps even greater importance, between the strange since, like the one sched-PM and his ministers and coalifidence votes are usually a huge tion partners. Its failure to legis-If an opposition knows full well the power of the executive has proved a major failing of the new that it lacks the votes to bring

> self as an all-powerful "presidential" leader, our first directlyelected premier, while setting up

> > No-confidence with the PM

ity of 61 votes is now required to his coalition, has been emasculat-compel the premier to resign and ing his own Likud.

And all the signs are that the process lso't over. In running for a second Binyamin term, Netanyahu's plans center ou forging a close alliance with the haredi parties - whose voters put him into office last year - at the expense of his Likud colleagues. While the ministers, coalitiou partners and coalition MKs have

lation designed to limit the prime minister's power. not yet learned (or dared) to fight Direct election was intended to

KAREN STABINER

Funny yet?

ituation comedy feeds our narcissism. We like to watch Ourselves. When the baby boom was in full swing, we tuned in to follow Lncy Ricardo's preg-nancy. In the middle of the women's rights movement. Maude decided to have an abortion

When women started to hear the snooze alarm sound ou their biological clocks, Mnrphy Brown had a baby out of wedlock. Ellen Morgan has just come out of the closet, as did the actress who portrays her.

Edith Bunker once had a hiopsy for a lump in her breast, but it turned ont to be benign, and she went back to being a lovable ditz. Just what we wanted to hear.

Now comes the news that Murphy Brown may once again hold a mirror up to her audience. TV Guide reports a possible new development in Murphy's life in her 10th and final season. She may have breast cancer.

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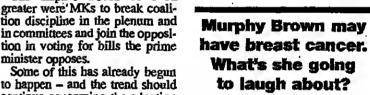
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Is this funny yet? Situation comedy usually lags a hlmk behind real life, since we find it easier to laugh with a little bit of hindsight; it deals in reflection, not revolution.

But breast cancer research and treatment are in a period of chaos new research and treatment headlines, annual funding skirmishes, and lots of contradictory messages. Scientists regard the activity with optimism, as the scramble that precedes enlightenment. Patients are not equally pleased by the turmoil. There seems very little to laugh at.

So the producers of Murphy Brown face an intriguing challenge: Do they mix it up or play it safe? Candice Bergen has proved she can wring laughs out of anything from drying out to labor. pains - the question is not whether she will be funny, but what she will be funny about.

Will Murphy discover ber illness at an annual mammogram, or will she find it by accident, a month after a seemingly clean Xray, the way so many women do? Will she realize that even the best health care money can buy is no guarantee of a cure?



Will her managed-care provider (even major corporations bave abandoned indemnity insurance) reimburse? Truth, in this case, is rougher than fiction. They might have to dig into the past for funny stuff safe-haven jokes about how much that maramogram hurts, or sci-fi barbs about radiation. Wigs are always good for a laugh. They are in the perfect position to do more. This will be the final season. Renewal is not an issue. The show's writers can address the anger and frustration and fear felt by the 44,000 women in the US who will be diagnosed this year, rather than condescend to them. Many of those women possess a wicked sense of humor about their fate. In the midst of confusion, a good laugh is a great release.

IMAGINE a coalition party like Yisrael Ba'aliya, currently in conflict with Netanyahu over his failure to honor coalition commitments, actually voting no confidence today - not to hring down the government, but merely to late a new system of restraints on show Netanyahu that it is ready to cross a red line if he pushes it too Such a move would require

In attempting to establish him-

votes aren't likely to bring down the government, but MKs can now show their displeasure

that promise, Netanyahu must stop trying to support.

mit himself alone to new elections, with the incumbent Knesset continuing in office. So much for the dry letter of the

law, and for conventional wisdom. What the new law fails to spell out is the relationship between a some are screwing up their

back and establish a new balance of power, the disquiet and even threats we have been hearing from Netanyahu's coalition partners in preparation for today's no-confi-

give the voters power to choose their prime minister. It wasn't meant to turn that prime minister into a dictator.

dence vote seem to suggest that The writer comments on public affairs.

courage for just that.

some meticulous pre-vote calcula-

tions guaranteeing a slight no-

confidence majority, but one just

short of the 61 that would force

It could be done - and not only

hy Natan Sharansky's party, but

also hy Gesher and Tsomet, or the

new internal opposition forming

in the Likud around Dan Meridor.

Benny Begin, David Re'em and

Theoretically, the prime minis-

ter can fire the ministers of rebel-

lious coalition factions, but he

wouldn't dare do it because be has

no viable alternatives to his pre-

The impact would be even

tion discipline in the plenum and

in committees and join the opposl-

tion in voting for bills the prime

Some of this has already begun

to happen - and the trend should

continue concerning the adoption

of additional constitutional legis-

new elections.

sent coalition.

minister opposes.

others

Road to permanent status

Sir, - For many reasons, I hate to take issue with Esther Wachsman ("Saddening state of affairs," June 9) about what she regards as one-sidedness on the part of civil-rights activists. However, because of my respect for her as a brave and honest woman. I cannot let her remarks pass uncontested.

First of all, Israelis living under the aegis of a democratic, elected government, recognized under international law, with a powerful army and a regulated police force, cannot be compared in any way, at any level, with the Palestinians. Like it or not, and regardless of one's political stance, the Palestinians of the West Bank are a people living under occupation, their most basic rights - the right to work, the right of freedom of movement - are granted entirely at the whim of the occupying power, and that power is Israel. Any Palestinian, on any pretext, can, and frequently is, arrested, was for instance forced to drive detained for long periods without on Bar-Ilan Street on Sbabbat or

SHAME!

Sir, - Your editorial of June 13, "One Wall, one people," was right on the mark.

Deputy Mayor of Jerusalem Haim Miller justifies attacking Jews who are praying at the Wall. For his irresponsible comments, which amount to incitement to future attacks, Mr. Miller should be removed from office immediately. Mr. Miller says Conservative Jews have nothing to look for at the Wall. The Wall does not belong to Haim Miller. It does not belong to haredim. It belongs to all Jews. The only Jews who should be kept away from the Wall are those who would prevent other Jews from praying there. Let us begin with Mr. Miller, who has proved his expertise in fostering sinat ahim. DON FUTTERMAN

Tel Aviv.

CIVIL-RIGHTS ACTIVISTS

is required to shop in the newaccess to legal aid, to family and friends. They simply have no shopping center in Ramat Aviv. civil rights at all. It is this situa-In other words, there is a differtion which leads to the involveence between the rights of groups ment of civil-rights activists on and individuals, and aggressive action hy one group or individual The reference to Yitzhar is, forasserting their desires at the

give me, pure demagoguery. The expense of another group or indi-Yitzhar settlers trespassed on vidual. lands not their own and, in this Mrs. Wachsman states that she context, were evicted by the is concerned to ensure that the appropriate authorities after every concern for the rights of the indiavenue of the due legal and vidnal are observed across the administrative process had been board, for all sectors of the pubexhausted. This was not an abuse lic. And rightly so. It is my belief of civil rights, but the enforcement that she could indeed be an asset of law - a significant difference. to those engaged in the struggle By the same token, the relifor civil rights. She may want to glous residents of Bar-Ilan Street consider becoming active as a volunteer in one of the relevant chose to challenge the agreed, organizations, such as the Association for Civil Rights or, legal and hinding status quo in the city by demanding the closure of a main traffic thorougheven B'Tselem. She could in this fare on Shabbat. They initiated a way contribute to a broadening of series of violent and ugly demonthe spectrum of issues addressed, strations against the right of the and to the securing of a more just secular public to freedom of and fair society for all. YEHUDIT KESHET movement. No religious person

Jerusalem.

LEARNING TO DRIVE SAD READING

Sir, - The headline on the Sir, - In Joel Gordin's article of front page of your issue of June May 21, "Bribe and Drive," he 12 makes very sad reading states, "In the US, the UK and Western Europe, anyone can be indeed. That people who pro-

fess to be religiously observant taught to drive by another licensed and on the festival of Shavuot driver." atlack fellow Jews, or for that In the state of Ohio, driving matter persons of any other reliinstructors are licensed by the Ohio Highway Patrol (State Police). Learners must be at gious persuasion who are praying or attempting to pray at the Wall is disgusting, to say the least 16 years old and, through to 18 years of age, they must The whole of Israel wants peace complete eight hours of driver with its neighbors, but how can safety instruction in the classwe ever hope to achieve this if room. Then they must complete there is no peace within our own eight hours of actual driving ranks? The biggest threat to with an instructor. This is a min-Israel's very existence is not from imum requirement in Ohio. those who threaten war againsi Anyone over 18 may engage the services of a commercial driving

the state, but from within our own school. JOHN S. COHEN

Ra'anana.

least.

borders.

sraeli policy-makers are husy preparing for permanent status Ltalks, the prime minister is pushing for immediate talks, hypassing the interim period, and the Palestinian Authority is sending mixed signals about whether it is ready for - such a move. Unfortunately, both Israel and the PA are trapped in outdated axiomatic modes of thinking.

Instead of learning lessons from the failures of Oslo, the two sides are stuhbornly on track to repeat them.

The original Oslo agreement did not fail because it was conceptually flawed. On the contrary: Had the agreements been honored in letter and spirit, they might by now have put Israeli-Palestinian relations on a firm enough foundation for negotiations on the permanent status to succeed. No. Oslo failed because its main

concept was not implemented. At root, the concept underlying

Oslo was rather simple: Delay the thorniest issues - like the future of Jerusalem, refugees, permanent borders and settlements - and deal immediately with improving economic conditions,

Rereading the Declaration of Principles and the statements of those who framed it back in 1993. the economic aspect of the agreement is striking.

The conditions promised the Palestinians were supposed to improve the atmosphere to such an extent that the sides would recognize, unequivocally, the importance of settling the conflict once and for all.

The claim that terrorism thrives in conditions of economic hopelessness was repeatedly stressed.

In practice, the Palestinians' economic situation has deteriorated dramatically since Oslo was signed; so has the general atmosphere.

And the permanent status issues, far from being put off so immediate issues could be dealt with, have served only to inflame both the Israeli and Palestinians

PINHAS INBARI ZIV HELLMAN

publics.

With the founding assumptions of Oslo thus in ruins, it is difficult to stir a measure of optimism as to the success of permanent status negotiations.

Public discourse is spawning a stream of alternative plans for final status arrangements. The press is filled with a bewildering variety of maps outlining possible future borders on the West Bank as if all were well with Oslo and

Every immediate problem solved becomes a stepping stone to a final arrangement

all that remained to be done was agree on the exact location of a line sketched on a map.

However, amid the reality of the failure to implement Oslo, leaping headlong into permanent status talks could do more harm than good

The prevailing attitude would necessarily be: Put immediate problems off to the final agreement - either from fear of setting a precedent, or hope that an allencompassing final framework would contain the solution to

those problems too. But many issues cannot wait. And it is difficult to believe that some of the more politically-charged issues can be resolved by 1999, as laid down in Oslo. Some issues may conceivably never be fully resolved. Even if a permanent status agreement can be attained in reasonable time, a repeat of the Oslo experience - a well-intentioned agreement badly botched in implementation - could spell catastropbe all round.

ONE example of a pressing problem is water. The available resources are obviously highly limited, and they are further endangered by open sewage spills flowing into groundwater sources. Left untreated, groundwater pol-

lution will eventually become irreversible, reducing those precious few water sources still more. High-level cooperation between Israelis and Palestinians is vital now. It cannot wait until the resolution of all outstanding permanent status issues.

A list of economic and social problems relating to daily interaction between Israelis and Palestinians, also requires more or less immediate attention.

A potential Catch-22 situation is developing in which ignoring these problems while awaiting the results of final status negotiations will itself adversely affect final status relations between Israelis and Palestinians.

One way out of the quandary would be to tackle these day-today issues seriously now, viewing the resolution of immediate problems as part of the road toward permanent status arrangements.

In the long run, as the failure of Oslo proves, day-to-day Israeh-Palestinian relations on the ground are far more decisive in determining the larger political issues than any grand statements in formal agreements signed in even more formal ceremonies.

A period of concentration on these day-to-day issues might be just the thing now, preparing the way for truly successful final status negotiations.

The maps, important as they are, can wait.

Inbari and Hellman are, respectively, director of research and senior researcher at the Institute for Peace Implementation, a Jerusalem-based think-tank studying permanent status issues.

NOT everyone is ready to get that close to the subject. Abont a month ago, I was confronted in a bookstore by a woman who did not want to huy my book about the war on breast cancer. When she saw it, and me, she held np her fingers in the sign of the cross and backed away.

If Murphy Brown gets breast cancer, you can bet that that woman will dive for the remote control. But I believe her to be in the terrified, dwindling minority. Most women are desperate to leave the last generation's legacy of silence - and shame - behind. They want to talk about it, as long as that talk is honest.

Women have already heard plenty of one-liners when it comes to breast cancer, though most of them elicit only a rueful snicker from survivors who know they are not true: "I'm sure it's going to turn out benign." "There's nothing to worry about, dear." "We got everything. You're cured."

Aristotle observed that writers of comedies must "accommodate themselves to the wish of the SDECTAtors "

By that definition, much of the history of breast cancer has been a comedy: People being told what they wish to hear, at the expense of progress.

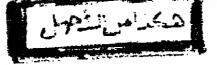
If the makers of Murphy Brown can veer toward a theater of confrontation, just a little, they may find an eager, impatient audience.

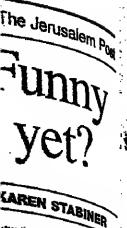
The writer is the author of To Dance With the Devil: The New War on Breast Cancer. (Los Angeles Times)

Cincinnati, Ohio.

JACK BERGER







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The Jerusalem Post Tuesday, June 24, 1997

ARTS&ENTERTAINMENT

ed

A celluloid tribute to the pioneers

By MATT REES

ovies filmed and set in prestate Israel were often L V Lunashamedly propagandist documentaries of struggle, pride and overcoming. This week the Hebrew University's Spielberg Jewish Film Archive opens an exhibition about such a film, of which one stirring fragment has survived the ravages of time, fire and an inferior edit by its US financial backers.

- Adama ("Earth") was filmed in 1948. at the Ben-Shemen Youth Village, using actors plucked from the young people who lived in the community near Lod

It told the story of a youthful Holocaust survivor (Benjamio Hildesheim) who overcomes his homifying memories by coming to Palestine and learning to love the land and the labor it takes to bring the fruit from it. "There is only as much heaven above your head as there is earth beneath your feet," he concludes.

The film was directed by the great German cinematographer Helmar Lerski, a master of light and photog-raphy who had been in charge of special effects on Fritz Lang's seminal Metropolis

Adama has had a tortured time since then. Hadassah, the US women's Zionist organization, contributed funding and took distribution rights to the film in the US. Though it was acclaimed in Europe, Hadassah's film chief decided Adama was "messed up." Hadassah took Lerski's brilliant footage and marvelous rhythmic editing, chopped it about and turned it into a film called Tomorrow's o Wonderful Day. The organization also added an American narrator who told Benjamin's story in the first person and cut ont several other characters. Even so, the film was well-

received in the US. Lerski shot the movie on the highly flammable 35-mm nitrate film then in common use.

Tomorrow's a Wonderful Day was copied onto more durable 16-mm film and can still be seen in its complete form. The original cut of Adama, however, was kept at Ben-Shemen, where it spontaneously combusted in 1960 and burned down the cafeteria, too. The final

IN TUNE

five minutes of the film had been copied in Tel Aviv and survive ioday, but even they were damaged in a separate fire.

Admirers of Lerski's 1935 film Avoda ("Work"), which supplied the archetypal marching, hammering and sweating images of the pioneers who made the desert bloom and then paved it, had to make do with the Hadassah version of Adama for decades. Then, four years ago, the Spielberg Archives' deputy director, Hillel Tryster, tracked down Richard Lewinsohn, a former resident of Ben-Shemen who now lives in Rishon Lezion.

Lewinsohn had been part of the film crew on Adama and had saved a wealth of photographs, scripts, posters and music that documented the production. It's Lewinsohn's hoard that is the basis of the Spielberg Archives' exhibition at the Central Zionist Archives in Wednesday Jerusalem, from through September 30.

"Practically no film is this welldocumented and yet the film itself hasn't survived," says Tryster.

"It's sort of a Holy Grail, now." Visitors to the exhibit will get to see Lewinsohn's photos with a commentary by Tryster, a 12-minute film that includes the final moments of Adama and some of the screen tests of youngsters from Ben-Shemen who were candidates for the lead role. There's also wonderful footage of life at the village and of its evacuation in the War of Independence - just after shooting was completed on Adama. The exhibit opens this week with

two special events. The first, tonight in Jerusalem, is a screening of Avoda at 8:30 at the Israel Museum's Springer Auditorium. The film is 50 minutes

long and entrance costs NIS 26 for the evening, which includes a lec-ture on Lerski's work by Jan-Christopher Horak, director of the Munich Film Museum.

On Thursday, at the Tel Aviv Cinematheque, there's a screening of Tomorrow's a Wonderful Day, with a lecture by Ronny Loewy, who heads the Holocaust film project of the Frankfurt Film Museum.

screenings, call 02-670-8985.)



(For more information on the Holocaust survivor Benjamin Hildesheim (center, sitting) learns to love the land in 'Adama.'



of the muse

Topol to fiddle again

Haim Topol, aka Tevya from Fiddler on the Roof, will be replaying his leading role as the poor Russian Jewish milkman, this time in Hebrew. Thirty-three years after the Tony award-winniog Broadway pro-duction portraying life in the shtetl, Avraham Desheh's People's Theater is putting on the musical here in January and February of 1998. Fiddler on the Roof will be directed by Sammy Beis, who directed the play in England. It will be part of the



state's 50th birthday celebrations.

Topol, who starred in the 1971 movie, hosted last week's "Philharmonic in the Park" celebration of 100 years of Zionism; though he sidestepped the violinist's cue to sing a repertoire from the musical, he did deliver his famous opening monologu Amy Klein

Reviving Woody Guthrie

British working-class pop hero Billy Bragg has been approached by the Woody Guthrie archive, to put some of the great American folk singer's songs to music. "Woody Guthrie wrote a lot of songs," he says, "hut he only recorded, really, during the Second World War." Guthrie didn't know how to read or write music, says Bragg, "he just wrote lyrics. "Woody hardly ever played to audiences of higger than two or

three bundred. Very few of the songs that he wrote were ever recorded or taped. So the manuscripts that remain have no tunes with them. I would like to cast some of these songs in the time that they were being written," he adds, referring to the early '50s, when hlues, R&B, and early rock 'n' roll were coming into prominence. Bragg believes these elements would have been echoed in Guthrie's music. (The Baltimore Sun)

Zehavi writes for Keshet Eilon

The Keshet Eilon Masterclasses in Kibbutz Eilon in Western Galilee take place July 25 through August 10. The kibbutz will host youog violin players from all over the world who want to hone their craft during their summer vacation. The final gala concert of the masterclasses will take place August 10 at the Tel Aviv Performing Arts Center, Composer Oded Zehavi has written a new opus especially for the masterclasses which comprises a series of 11 fragments, duets and dialogues for violins. The work is writteo in a way in which it can be performed by from two to 16 violinists. Michael Ajzenstadt

The magnificent seven

DANCE REVIEW

By ORA BRAFMAN

her program, Tharp!, which

includes three oew works:

Heroes, Sweet Fields, and 66.

Halfway through Heroes, compa-

ny dancers lost their vivacious-

ness as they lost their footing on

the hazardous wet lioolcum floor,

caused by the humid summer

Tharp, who earlier hesitated to

remove the slippery floor,

Currende Choir contributed to

the singing's intensity and lucidi-

ty. The appropriately solemn

chorales contrasted excitingly

with the dramatic, vitriolic choral

utterances representing the incit-ed, hate-infested Jewish mob.

As the Evangelist, tenor Joseph

evening.

The Israel Fund for Quality Films has approved development funding of \$7,000 each for seven screenplay synopses. To qualify for further funding, the screenplays will have to get final approval from the fund. The films include Blood, Milk and Honey by Serge Ankri, and Meanwhile by Noa Efrat. Helen Kaye

Murphy Brown ma have breast cance What's she going

By DAVID BRINN

tentious it is or how much I like it.

zled audiences with its shows, and

Video didn't kill the Radiohead

ballads. Grohl's melodic instincts barrel through the sometimes torrid rhythms and kerraang of the guitars.

Tharp the hero

to laugh about?

New York Constraints e en la companya en der einen her hit som enter al la f

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Timeless in nature, and totally unlike anything else currently out there, the album bursts at the seams with ideas, melodies, and dense instrumental passages.

> **OK COMPUTER** Radiobead (NMC) THE COLOUR AND THE SHAPE Foo Fighters (NMC)

THE PLANET SLEEPS Various artists (Helicon)

Radiohead, which has gone straight to the top of the local Tower charts (see box below), has the reputation of being the British R.E.M., not so much for any clear musical similarities, but for its dedicated non-following of fashion and its devotion to rock as art.

Backing up Michael Stipe and company on part of its world tour in 1995 (including a stop in Tel Aviv - its second), Radiohead daz-

even Stipe exclaimed it was so good, it was scary. "don't know what bothers me For those who only know the band and its charismatic frontman more about Radiohead's third Thom Yorke via its debut slacker album OK Computer: How pre-

anthem, the distortioo-drenched "Creep," the difference is like listening to Meet the Beatles and Sgt. Pepper.

Östensihly, a loosely-knit concept album (first warning sign!) about drowning in late 20th-century technology, OK Computer occasionally almost drowns in its own earnestness, like on the sprawling single "Paranoid Android," a songsuite that echoes ghosts of prog rock dinosaurs (second warning sign!) ELP and Rush.

When it doesn't try so hard, as on almost the whole rest of the record, the results improve drastically. The jazzy "Subterranean Homesick Alien" contains a killer chorus, as does the shimmering "Let Down," a dead ringer for the lush Automatic for the People era R.E.M.

For fear of being laughed off the page, what OK Computer reminds me of more than anything else are those early '70s Moody Blues concept albums in which you emerged thinking that something deep and intense took place. This is not a pop album, but a



Radiohead: Dedicated to rock as art

flawed but noble attempt at a serious statement. There are loads of empty spaces, which the band doesn't feel compelled to fill with rock beats and guitar solos, creating a relaxed, dreamy atmosphere. On the haunting, closing ballad "The Tourist," the narrator admonishes himself to "slow down, you idiot." Radiohead takes its own advice to exhilarating effect.

THAT'S not to say there's no place for loud, fast and dumb. Foo

Fighter's second album proves this proudly, as ex-Nirvana drummer Dave Grohl steps into his own, following 1995's promising dehut. The Colour and the Shape is a band effort, unlike the exclusively Grohl debut, and the interaction makes for a livelier, looser feel. Grohl's punk-pop orientation is still very much evident, with the first single, the infectious "Monkey

Wrench," leading the Ramonesmeets-Blue Oyster Cult way. Tempered with ragged acoustic

You won't hear much that reminds you of Grohl's former band, as Grohl has a lighter, more humorous and varied touch than the late Kurt Cobain.

He may not be up to par with his former partner lyrically, but at least there are no odes this time to Ritalin as there was on the debut, although one tune titled "My Poor Brain" almost takes up the slack.

Way too melodic to be heavy metal, too tough to be pop, and too layered to be punk, Foo Fighters takes its own color and shape just fine.

THE COMPILERS of The Planet Sleeps intend "to bring hliss into a frantic world." They succeed nicely in the collection of 16 lullabies from 16 countries featuring music and instruments indigenous to each country

Bach's St. John Passion, conducted by Avner Biron, was the crowning glory of Israel is represented by Jeremy Kaplan and Haya Samir collaboratthe Israel Camerata's season. ing on the lilting "Noomey." The small size of the Belgian

With tracks ranging from chorale hymns to African chants, the collections is a little too disjointed to be really hlissful, but after a few listens to Foo Fighters, it sure is soothing.

> Cornwell remained faithful to the traditional narrative style. Hubert Claessens displayed a warm, sonorous, bass-baritone in the role of Jesus, and the richly inflected soprano of Monika Frimmer evoked love throughout.

The orchestra's solo episodes were highlights in their own right. Its ensemble playing was inspired. blending in with the choir in a remarkable artistic achievement that did justice to this demanding.

THIS LAST WEEKS ON

WEEK WEEK CHARTS

watched as her dancers slipped and heroically went on with their cautious dancing. She rushed backstage at the first intermission merican choreographer Twyla Tharp came here as to reverse her decision and treat Apart of a world tour, with the wounded.

. The young company cootains some truly fine dancers, with an emphasis on male dancers, who also got many more chances to express themselves. Tharp is an American asset who gives "entertainment" a good name. High and low art, street-corner and ballet expressions mix and match in her uniquely able and intelligent hands.

CONCERT ROUNDUP Bach's disgusting work

though in many ways revolting, Ury Epostein work.

UNDER Yuri Ahronovitch's baton, the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra-IBA soared through the relatively short dance numbers which came alive on the concert stage (Henry Crown Symphony Hall, June 18). The highlights were the excerpts from Tchaikovsky's Swan Lake, The Nutcracker and The Sleeping Beauty. Eran Reemy's trumpet was particularly impressive.

It compensated for the earlier rendition of Gershwin's F Major Piano Concerto in which Jeffrey Siegel rushed through the music with amazing speed and without any sensitivity to Gershwin style. It was a very heavy reading devoid of that smile and wink in the eye which characterizes all of Gershwin's compositions Michael Ajzenstadt

O.K. COMPUTER

NESHIKA LADOD

BLOOD ON THE ...

MIDDLE OF NOWHERE

SPACE JAM

COMING UP

JE TAIME

LIVE

JSO quenches thirst for Strauss All the street's a stage

By HELEN KAYE

o the second day of last year's International Street Theater Festival, the first of its kind here, artistic director Jacky Behar got all his players together for a gripe session. Whatever they said must have worked, because the new,

second and improved International Street Theater Festival hits the street in Bat Yam's industrial area on July 1 and 2.

There are eleven local acts, four of them commissioned by the festival, and three visitors from abroad as well as a juggling space, pavement artists and magic stiltwalkers.

The local acts include The Tail from KLIPA, alias Dmirri Tulpanov and Idit Herman, the wildly talented and original couple who won first prize at this year's Shades of Dance. They've got a whole street to themselves and to get in, you have to lift a cur-

Then there's Yinon Tzafrir's tain. Hama'apilim who've been searching for the promised land so many years that they're covered in cob-

webs, and Abigail Klein's box with about 50 peepholes to look inside and see her act, but be prepared for surprises. Another off-the-wall, talented group is the Zitzland trio who

made a huge hit at the Haifa Children's Theater festival and won the street theater first prize there.

The foreign companies are Los Galindos, a comic trapeze act from Spain; Iris, also from Spain, who has a very audience interactive show; and a street circus group from Austria called Intwisch.

The improvements to the festival include big posters announcing what's where when, no overlapping events, no background music - thank goodness because last year it drowned out the theater - and no stages, It's all right on the

street. The budget is NIS 800,000, 60 percent of which comes from the Bat Yam municipality and the rest from corporate sponsors including Nestlé Motta and Tempo.

The festival spreads over Nussbaum and Josephthal streets and runs from 7 p.m. to midnight both evenings.

By MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

s the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra-IBA's season comes to a close, music director David A Shallon expresses mixed feelings regarding the future of the orchestra and music in the capital.

After five years in the job - which began with friction between the maestro and the musicians - Shallon, 46, can at last say that "I enjoy each and every rehearsal with the orchestra." And there's no doubt that the JSO under Shallon has improved.

Tomorrow night's final concert is a Richard Strauss evening, showcasing three works never played by the orchestra. "For many years we all thought about Strauss but were not allowed to play his music for various reasons. Now this has all changed and all local orchestras are thirsty for Strauss music." This particular program, Shallon elaborates, "combines two works written 70 years apart.

The First Horn Concerto is a youthful opus written when Strauss was about 17, and the last four songs were composed in 1949. The time between these two works is more than double the life span of Schubert and Mozart."

The program ends with Strauss's monumental Alpine Symphony. "It is a festival of sounds, a description in music of a youthful experience of traveling in the Alps." The piece requires a large number of extra musicians, especially extra hom players. "Actually you need eight hom players on stage and a dozen off stage. We will get close to this number."

Shallon is less happy about the city's lack of interest in the orchestra. He even made a donation to enable the orchestra to purchase new chairs for the musicians on

"But this was sort of an act of despair. I hoped that it might do something to someone in the city but now I doubt it. I have the feeling that everybody

around us io the city tries to do anything they can to simply avoid us. It doesn't hap-

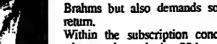
Nevertheless, he is looking forward to the orchestra's coming season, for which he is set to continue his programming policy of not pampering the audience. Shallon gives the audience its share of Beethoven and Brahms but also demands something in return.

Within the subscription concerts, he is adamant about playing 20th-century music in general, and contemporary Israeli music in particular. And next year, he will play a

Shallon admits that he is hardly thrilled with some light-classics concerts the orchestra will present next season, like an evening of film music, a program of highlights from West End musicals and a Viennese Ball-style concert.

"But we live in a certain economic reality and 1 want to see how it will work. I know our lighter program is highly successful among new subscribers, but I also know of some subscribers who moved to the main series because they didn't like what we offered within the lighter classics series. For me, that is somewhat rewarding."

pen in other cities."



David Shallon

NEW! #2 3 NEW! #3 #4 4 **#5** work by Sofia Gubaidolina. 1

TIPEX SUEDE - 6 YEHUDA POLIKER 19 MICHAEL JACKSON #6 2 6 **#**7 NEW! V/A HANSON #8 8 #9 13 SHALOM HANOCH 3 #10

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EREV, EREV EYAL GOLAN WITHOUT YOU 7 COLLECTION 10 43 RAMI KLEINSTEIN #12 NEWI WU-TANG CLAN WU-TANG FOREVER 1 GLYKERIA MAGIC NIGHTS 20 - 3 **CELINE DION** RE FALLING INTO YOU 1 24 14 V/A PARTY TIME 3

TOWER RECORDS' TOP 15

ARTIST

RADIOHEAD

OST

Tower Records' top-selling albums for last week





in brief

Kuwait, Jordan resume commercial flights

Kuwait and Jordan agreed on Sunday in Kuwait City to resume commercial flights in July, almost seven years after they were halted by the 1990 Iraqi occupation of this oil-rich Gulf

The resumption was a sign that the two countries are closer to ending a hiatus caused by Jordan's perceived tilt toward Baghdad during the 1990-91 Gulf crisis.

Baghdad during the 1990-91 Gulf crisis. Kuwait News Agency said the announcement was made by a Kuwait Airways Corp. delegation visiting Amman to discuss the matter with their counterparts at Royal Jordanian. Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmed al-Sabah, has led a campaign for reconciliation, saying Kuwait needs to win more friends.

Jordanian tourism declines 3%

The number of tourists visiting Jordan declined this year because of mounting tension caused by deadlocked Mideast peace talks, officials said yesterday.

"Western tourists regard Jordan as part of a region plagued by tension and instability caused by deadlocked peace talks," said Mazin Qaisi, who works for Prime Tours.

About 396,000 visitors came to Jordan between January and May this year, about 3.2 percent less than the same period in 1996, Tourism Ministry figures indicate. The number of American tourists declined by 7,000 to 42,000 and Europeans by 15,000 to 120,000, but visitors from Gulf Arab states increased by 9,000 to 164,000 and from Israel by 1,000 to 50,000 this

Israel trade office in Taiwan launches Web site

The Israel Economic and Cultural Office in Taipei has just established a new Web site to provide economic, cultural, current events, and tourism information about Israel.

The ISECO site, in English and Chinese, also includes an electronic matching service that enables Taiwanese and Israeli entrepreneurs and husinesses to locate each other via the Internet.

Via standardized E-mail submissions, Taiwanese and Israeli businesspeople can inform the ISECO on their fields of business, investment, or entrepreneurial interest.

The ISECO office in Taipei in conjunction with the Israel Export Institute in Tel Aviv will then match compatible companies. The site can be reached at www.tpe.wownet.net/~iseco Jennifer Friedlin

Overseas callers are talking longer

People who have joined Bezeq International's special deal giving a 15 percent reduction on overseas calls to two specific num-bers are talking 50% longer than before, but the number of calls they are making has increased only moderately.

The company said 40,000 subscribers have joined the Kesher Ham deal in the last six weeks. In addition to the original 14 couotries, Russia, Ukraine, Ireland, Holland, Argentina, and South Africa have joined the list.

One may join by calling 188 and paying a NIS 3.90 monthly Judy Siegel fee.

Meridor: Budget-cut plan on PM's desk for a month

BUSINESS&FINANCE

Netanyahu claims proposal still being studied by Treasury

By DAVID HARRIS

The additional NIS 600 million 1997 hudget cut, with all its details, was presented to Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu a month ago, former finance minister Dan Meridor said yesterday.

Throughout the day yesterday, the Prime Minister's Office failed to deny a report in Ha'aretz according to which Netanyahu said the Treasury was still studying its proposed cuts, and said that the premier is backtracking from his earlier agreement to endorse a supplementary NIS 600m. cut. Ever since the end of the first quarter, when it became clear the

1997 hudget deficit was not within the government-set target of 2.8 percent of the gross domestic

With regard to whether Meridor product, Meridor had been pushdid present the detailed hadget cut . Ministries have both expressed

other problems."

Meridor wanted the cut to be made alongside a substantial reduction in the central bank's key

There are increasing signals both from the Treasury and Prime

Minister's Office that there is no

intention of implementing an

want a further cut is quite simple."

said former finance minister

Avraham Shohat (Labor).

"Midterm be doesn't want to lose

favor with ministers over their

budgets, when there are already

"The reason Netanyahu doesn't

additional cut this year.

December.

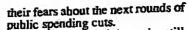
lending rate.

ing for an additional budget cut this year, following that of NIS 7.2 billion approved by the Knesset in With attention turning to the

With attention turning to the 1998 budget, many in the Treasury feel it is now too late to implement the cut this year. Ministry sources are talking of a cut between NIS 2b. and NIS 4b. in order to bring the deficit down to 2.4% of GDP. in line with the government tar-

get Both this year and next year's cuts are intended to be made across the board, with the Defense Ministry facing an uphill struggle to receive the same sum next year as this, let alone any increase. Indeed, negotiations over this year's defense budget are ongo-ing, having been stalled several times this year.

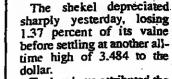
The Health and Education



The Health Ministry is still involved in a bitter argument with the Treasury over funding for the health funds. The Treasury wants to give greater financial independence to the health funds, but this would mean a reduction or even an end to the government's commitmeot to fund the difference between health insurance payments and the basket of health services. This gap currently stands at some NIS 2b.

The Finance Ministry also is facing funding demands from the Yisrael Ba'aliyah Party. The government will discuss the

hudget in about a month from now and will have to pass the hudget law through the Knesset before December 31.



Traders have attributed the currency's erratic behavior to the market's nervousness in the face of the coalition crisis which has followed Dan Meridor's resignation last week as finance minis-

Yesterday's trading, which was dominated by an aggre-gate demand for some \$200 millioo, completed a 2% depreciation over two consecutive trading days.

Since the beginning of the year the greenback has appreciated by NIS 0.22, or

Meanwhile, the Bank of Israel's basket of foreign currencies climbed 2.2% since Thursday, thus creating a distance of 1.8% between the lower extent of. the fluctuation band and the so-called diagonal's middle point.

An estimated \$500 million in dollar orders since the announcement of the central bank's 1.2% interest rate cut last Wednesday represents a sharp turnabout in the currency market's behavior, which earlier last week recorded daily supplies of some \$700m.

While the reasons for the market's behavior can only be the subject of speculation - ranging from fear of a new finance minister's fiscally expansive policies to hopes for a newly invigorated, export-friendly economy the shekel's depreciation for now suits the Bank of Israel's agenda, namely to cease and finance its shekel policy through accelerated dollar purchases.

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المراجعة أشقق وروار

The Tel Aviv St

sidiary in a stock swap worth some \$3 billion.

Delors: EU summit a fiasco

PARIS (Reuter) - Former Amsterdam shocked me," after the launch of a single cur-European Commission chief Delors added, saying he felt he reocy in 1999.

French demand on EMU that

was "completely justified" and

that Bonn had demanded una-

nimity voting on justice aod

home affairs - an area where

Bonn had previously favored

majority voting. Delors said France's request

for "a true coordination of eco-

nomic policies" as a counterbal-

ance to an independent EU cen-

tral hank after the creation of a

single European currency in

The summit ended early on

Wednesday with accord on a res-

olution bolstering jobs and

growth, favored by France. Paris

agreed to a pact championed by

1999

Maastricht.

was justified by

Israel, Poland to sign trade pact next month

Koor postpones US bond issue



Compag acquires Tandem

Eckhard Pfeiffer (left), president and CEO of Compaq Computer Corporation, poses yesterday in New York with Roel Pieper, CEO of Tandem Computers, following their announcement that Compaq has agreed to acquire Tandem as a wholly owned subTuesday,

June 24, 1997

Dollar

soars

1.37% to

NIS 3.484

By Jerusalem Post Staff

Jacques Delors on Sunday branded the European Union's summit last week a "fiasco" and said he had been "shocked by German arrogance."

He also accused Bonn of "allergy" towards southern European states, such as Spain and Italy, that hope to join a single European currency from ĩ999.

"It was a fiasco, there's no other word," Delors told Europe I radio of the Amsterdam summit in producing a new treaty to update the Maastricht treaty mapping out the path to economic and monetary union (EMU).

Delors, a Freoch Socialist and an architect of Maastricht, said the revised treaty failed partly by avoiding key issues of how to enlarge the bloc to eastern European states. "They ended with a flop, a had atmosphere," be said.

"The German arrogance at Bonn to limit hudget deficits

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could speak out because of loog "I thick that what happened at Amsterdam shows that the and close ties with Booo in 10 wheels of cooperation between years as Commission president France and Germany are not until 1995. "It deserved a stronger reply from France." working well," he said. Delors also said Bonn was Delors said German Chancellor Helmut Kohl had refused a

being ton strict in interpreting criteria for joining a single currency, especially a demand that countries should limit their hadget deficit to three percent of gross domestic product from Ī997.

"I suspect them [Germany] of wanting to arrive at 3.00 percent for 1997 in order to satisfy their allergy against southern countries." he said. Even so, he said he believes

the euro would he launched on time. "I think it will be happen," he said.

New Socialist French Prime Minister Lionel Jospin has argued for a flexible interpretation of the criteria, that also allow for inclusion of countries that are clearly moving towards the targets.

Delors said financial markets were betting on EMU starting with a broad range of countries but that all would have to qualify. "We will accept a broad euro, but not a weak euro," he said. Delors also said he felt stung by charges Europe lacks a social dimeosion or concern for the unemployed. "People who say there is no social Europe are either ignorant or bypocrites," he said. spokeswoman.



D ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK

By JENNIFER FRIEDLIN

yesterday.

said.

between the two nations.

European Union in terms of trade

with Poland, because Poland

already has such an agreement

with the European Union," Cohen

The agreement applies to all

industrial exports and many agri-

Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky will next month visit Poland and sign a free-trade accord, which will take effect on

are to be removed a year later. Israel has similar agreements January 1, 1998, Gabriella Cohen. with two other Eastern European countries, the Czech Republic and deputy director of the ministry's Slovakia, and is finalizing a treaty foreign trade administration, said with Slovenia. The ministry is also The accord, initialed earlier this conducting trade discussions with

week, is expected to boost trade Hungary. Israel has free-trade agreements with the US, Canada, Turkey, and "The agreement will make Israel more competitive with the the European Union.

Israel bad a positive trade bal-ance with Poland in 1996, with exports worth some \$65 million, mostly to agriculture, communications, and high-tech products. Polish imports to Israel totalled \$20m. last year.

cultural and food exports. It also

stipulates that duties on sensitive

products be eliminated by January

1999, said Cohen. Textile duties

Africa Israel plans \$120m. industrial park in Lod

By Jerusalem Post Staff

The park will comprise six

buildings bousing offices, service

centers, and stores. Unlike Africa

Israel's industrial park in Rehovot, . the Lod park will not be a high-

tech center, but will focus on pro-

viding office space for other busi-

going to develop into a business center," said Ben-David. "Things

that were never there before, such

as botels and offices, are starting

for businesses, she said.

"Lod is seen as a place that is

nesses.

to pop up."

Africa Israel plans to invest \$120 million in a 170-dunam (43operations. acre) industrial park in Lod, said Mazal Ben-David, a company

ed The industrial park reflects

Africa Israel's continuing plans to develop its real estate holdings. In November, Lev Leviev bought a major stake in Africa Israel from Bank Leumi.

announced the establishment of three new corporate divisions: Africa Israel Real Estate Holdings, Africa Israel International, and Africa Israel Revenue Producing Properties.

Nearby Ben-Gurion Airport also Africa Israel Industry and Trade, makes this an attractive location Africa Israel Hotels, and Danya Cebus. Africa Israel also has plans

By JENNIFER FRIEDLIN

Koor Industries has indefinitely postponed plans to raise \$300 million in a US bond offering, the firm announced yesterday. The holding company originally planned to issue the bonds at the beginning of July. Koor attributed the decision to recent changes in monetary policy and fears that a bond offering would hurt the company should the shekel continue to depreciate.

Because its balance sheets are recorded in shekels, any depreciation of the shekel would damage the company's ability to pay dollarbased interest rates on the bonds. The company is currently consid-

ering other ways to raise money. There is uncertainty at this time as to the economic feasibility and the risks associated with an offering of

of bonds by Koor in the US, in comparison with the feasibility of obtaining long-term financing in linked new Israeli shekels in Israel," the company said in a statement.

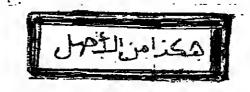
If the shekel were to depreciate and the company had issued the bonds, the company would face an' "enormous financial loss," said Tal-Liani an analyst at Zannex Securities in Tel Aviv.

The company is currently looking to raise money to restructure Makhteshim and to expand its core businesses, Liani said. Koor estimates that such activities will cost about \$200m. - \$300m.

The company recently announced its interest in acquiring Israel Chemicals Ltd. Koor is currently waiting for the Eisenberg family to settle the will of Shoul Eisenberg, Israel Chemical's late chairman.

ISPAEL	MO	NEY	MA.	BKE	16
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Currency basket	3,7204	2,7805		·	3.7869
U.S. dollar	3.4244	3.4797	3.36	3.53	3.4840
German mark	1.9833	2.0153	1.94	2.05	2.0197
Pound starling French franc	5.6769	5.7685	5.57	. 5.85	5.7817
Japanese yan (100)	0.5879	0.5974	. 0.57	0.61	0.5985
Dutch florin	2.9656 1.7631	3.0135	2.91	8.06	3.0188
Swias franc	2.3819	2.4204	1.73	1.82	1.7947
Swedien krone	0.4442	0.4514	0.43	0.46	0.4524
Norwegian krone	0.4729	0.4806	0.46	0.49	0.4806
Dantsh krone	0.5208	0.5293	0.51	0.54	0.5302
Finnish mark	0.6636	0.6744	0.65	0.69	0.6757
Canadian dollar	2.4598	2.4895	2.41	2.54	2.5060
Australian dollar S. African rand	2.5723	2.6138	2.52	2.66	2.6160
Belgien franc (10)	0.7607 0.9510	117730	0.69	0.78	0.7741
Austrian schilling (10)	2.8188	0.9766	0.94	1.00	0.9784
italian ina (1000)	2.0282	2.0610	2.77	2.91	2.8695
Jordanian dinar	4.8298	4.9078	1.89	2.09	2.0638
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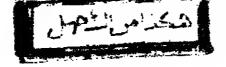
The company owns, controls, and manages Holiday Inn's local

So far, 70 percent of the space in one of the buildings has been rent-

Since the purchase, Leviev

Africa Israel previously consist-ed of three subsidiaries, including:





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SPORTS

Tuesday, June 24, 1997 The Jerusalem Post

Krajicek, Ivanisevic, Majoli crisp on soggy day

Henman inaugurates Wimbledon's new Court 1 with win

WIMBLEDON (AP) - Richard Krajicek opened the defense of his Wimbledon title yeslerday with an overpowering grass-court performance on a soggy day at the All England Club.

10

Krajicek, seeded fourth and coming off a tuneup victory in his native Netherlands, beat Germany's Marcello Craca 7-6 (7-5), 6-2, 6-4. He won his first 19 service points, served a total of 19 aces and faced only one hreak point the whole match.

"I feel a lille hit relieved that it's over," said Krajicek, when asked to compare the result with last year's final triumph over MaliVai Washington.

"Both days had a special tension to them and hoth days I was pretty happy that I finally won."

In the first match to be played on the new Court 1. Tim Henman, the first British player seeded in 15 years, won 7-6 (13-11), 6-1, 6-4 against Canada's Daniel Nestor.

No. 2 seed Goran Ivanisevic won in straight sets to beat the rain and French Open champion lva Majoli recorded her first Wimhledon victory, giving the tournament a double success for Croatia.

Ivanisevic served 24 aces in a 6-1, 6-3, 6-3 triumph over Dinu Pescariu, finishing his match in 64 minutes on Court 2.

Two of his service games were all aces and another had three.

When Pescariu had a hreak point early in the third set, lvanisevic saved it with an ace and followed with another to snuff out the threat.

On the same court, Majoli came from a set down to score a 2-6, 6-0, 6-3 victory over Argentina's Mariana Diaz Oliva, who was playing her first Grand Slam match.

Majoli, the No. 4 seed, had lost in the first round in her previous Wimhledon appearances in 1994 and 1995.

"This is a dream come true, getting through the first round of Wimbledon," she said. "After winning this match, I was almost as happy as when 1 won the French Open."

Greg Rusedski won the opening set in the



Goran Ivanisevic

matchup of the two biggest servers in the game on Center Court hut needed a tiehreaker against No. 7 seed Mark Philippoussis of Australia before rain halted play. The British left-hander didn't concede a

point on his first four service games while the

Australian saved four break points on the way to 6-6. Philippousis also saved two set points in the tiebreaker before Rusedski clinched it 8-6 after 44 minutes of high-powered serving and little else.

Other early winners were women's No. 5 Lindsay Davenport, who came from a set down to beat Tami Whitlinger-Jones 5-7, 6-2, 6-2; No. 12 Irina Spirlea of Romania, who scored a 6-1, 6-0 victory over Henrieta Nagyova of Slovakia in 46 minutes; and Bulgaria's Magdalena Maleeva, who downed Britain's Julie Pullio 6-1, 6-3.

In the men's first round, No. 10 Carlos Moya of Spain posted a 7-6 (7-1), 6-3, 4-6, 6-2 victory over American lucky loser Steve Bryan, who replaced iojured Andre Agassi io the draw.

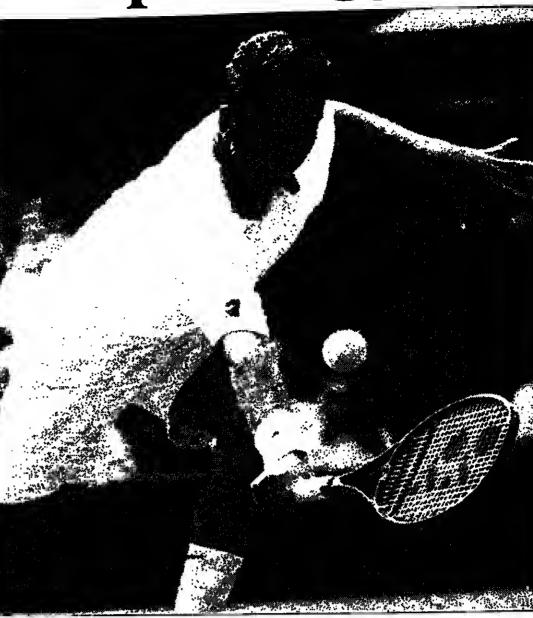
Rain caused frequent interruptioos on the opening day and arrived just 15 minutes before the opening ceremony for the new No. I court, an 11,000 capacity arena huilt over the past two years to replace the 7,000-seater No. 1 which is in the process of demolition.

The first shower lasted only 15 minutes and didn't hold up the ceremony, which was attended by 10 players who had won Wimbledon titles three times or more.

The men's champions were Rod Laver, John Newcombe, John McEnroe, Boris Becker and Pete Sampras. The women's titlists were Louise Brough, Margaret Court, Billie Jean King, Chris Evert and Martina Navratilova. A notable absentee was five-time winner Bjorn Borg.

Sampras, who lost to Krajicek in last year's quarterfinal after winning the title three years in a row, plays today, when the No. 1 seed faces Mikael Tillstrom of Sweden.

With injured Steffi Graf absent, the women's competition does not have a defending champion. Top seed Martina Hingis, beateo only once this year, faces qualifier Anne Kremer of Luxembourg today. The match between No. 2 Monica Seles and Australia's Rachel McQuillan was postponed until today because of rain.



HOT START - Last year's champion Richard Krajicek returns a serve from Germany's Marcello Craca, whom he beat in straight sets yesterday.

THE LOCAL SCENE

Junior swimmers finish fourth; 14-year-old takes 3 golds

By HEATHER CHAIT

Neither Syria's boycott nor temperatures of 45 degrees could deter Israel's young swimmers from a fourth-place finish at the Junior Mediterranean Cup competition in Nicosia this week.

Among the 11 competing countries were Italy, France, Greece as well as Algeria, Morocco and Egypt

Fourteen-year-old Adi Bichman was the darling of the girls team, which placed third overall, with her three gold medals in the 200- and 400-meters individual medleys (2:25.01 and 5:05.96) and the 200m hreastroke (2:39.95). This brings to nine the number of gold medals Bichman has won over three years in this competition.

Also making gold was Vered Borochovsky in the

hack system gave third place to husband and wife Cyril and Norma Kaufman.

In the semiannual best players competition, Cyril Kaufman won the A division with 57 points, Clive Jossett took the B with 58, Jules Cuhumek dominated the C with 51 and raking in the highest total was Barbara Golan who scored 75 in the D group. Meanwhile, in Tottori, Japan, the junior team of

Elad Hasson, David Adelman, Eran Benita and Shlomy Assayag competed among the world's top 15 countries in the World Junior Golf Team Championships. After three days of the strokeplay tournament, the

United States won with 864 points with Japan second on 880. Israel scored 1021 for 15th place. Maccabiah minutes: Kerry Strug will not be the

only famous gymnast at this Maccabiah. Yelena

forced a draw in the second Ashes Test after Mark Butcher and balls. Michael Atherton hit half ceoturies and shared a match-saving 162-run stand for the first wicket

at Lord's yesterday. Australia had a first-innings advantage of 136 runs after declaring overnight at 213 for seven. But England batted out the last day to score 266 for four before agreeing to end the match ooe hour before the scheduled end of play.

Australia had won its last three Test matches at Lord's, but the draw ended the visitors' run and also marked the end of Australia's 18-Test drawless streak. Butcher scored 87 and Atherton

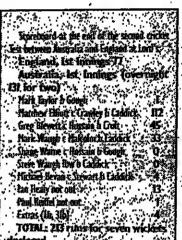
Michael Atherton

Atherton, leading England for a record 42nd time, summed up the

Having played and missed for most of the morning, Butcher came out of his shell hitting 14 boundaries in his 210-ball innings. Atherton's ... 159-ball ...innings included 10 boundaries as he occupied the crease for 220 minutes.

class century at Lord's. The clos-est he came was in 1993, when he was run out on 99 when he slipped

Kasprowicz delivery off his pads to fine leg, hut then trod on his stumps as he set off for a run.



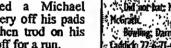
eclared. eclared. Fall of victors 4, 73, 147, 147, 147, 159, 212 Did not bat: Nichael Rasprowicz and Giene

McGratt Bowling: Darren Googli 20-4-82-7 Aultr Caddick 22-6-71-4, Dépai Hakolm 7.1-94

Butcher, Atherton ensure England draw in 2nd Test LONDON, (AP) – England victory soon after tea when three ping on his stmmps. orced a draw in the second Ashes wickets tumhled in the space of 17 Butcher, whose past three Test scores were eight, 14 and five, finally came good in his fourth innings of the series with an But Graham Thorpe and John Crawley defied leg spinner Shane Warne and paceman Glenn innings of remarkable character.

Atherton is yet to score a first-

in mid-pitch. Atherton turned a Michael



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100m hutterfly in 1:05.02.

Bichman and Borochovsky then starred in the relay team's third place result in the 4x100m individual medley, along with Tal Shpeizer and Mieke Shatz, clocking 4:33.13. Next year Israel is due to host the event.

Tennis: The 'Peace Tournament' will be a clear mixing of poliucs and sport. To be held in Tabe in November, the event will hring together senior play-ers (over 35) from Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait and Israel. Likely to represent Israel will be Shlomo Glickstein and Shahar Perkis.

In other developments, Oren Motevassel, ranked 180 and the No. 2 local racket, is expected to be included in the Davis Cup squad for the first time in the September clash against Morocco. Other ATP rankings this week have Eyal Ran at 140, Eyal Erlicb at 201, Raviv Weidenfeld at 238 and Nir Welgreen at 278.

Golf: This week's better ball competition was won by Eli Gitlin and Solly Friedman with 45 stablefordpoints. Second were Bruce Watters and Jules Polak on 43 while three teams ended with 41 hut the count-

Shoshonova, Russia's champion who won two golds, a silver and a bronze at Seoul, will be another attraction at the event which begins July 14. Of the 38 states who have confirmed, the largest delegation will be from the US, numbering 528.

Cricket: This year's league is packed with surprises as last year's winners, Ashdod A, are hurtling towards relegatioo. In their fourth defeat, they made 214 (H. Awaskar 96) against Beersheba's 255/9 (B. Gudker 71). Tel Aviv, however, is in the driving seat, the only team still unbeaten in Division I. They made 98/5 to beat Young Ashdod's 94.

In the second division, Dimona A made 57/3 against Kirvat Gat's 56 and the Eleveo Stars notched up 238/7 to beat Dimona C's 105.

Beach volleyball: If it's summer, it must be beach volleyball and this year's season bursts into life on June 26-27 with the youth league on Tel Aviv's sands. The professional league will move from Tel Aviv on June 27-28 to Haifa on July 4-5 and Ashdod on July 11-12. To register, call (03) 5622114.

in victory.

rain-affected game in one word. "Uusatisfactory," said Atherton of the match which had two days, four hours and 53 minutes of play lost due to rain over the first four days. Nicknamed "Iron Mike" for his ability to play back-to-the-wall inniogs in crises, Atherton said there were only two results possihle on the last day.

"It was either an Australian win or a draw. If you can't win, the next best possible thing is try and do the best not to lose.

The England skipper also said Butcher, playing in only his second match, survived a big test. "It was a test of character.

Spending 2-3 hours batting, you learn more about Test cricket." Australia sniffed an unlikely

and won twice since he started

playing here in 1994. "What's the saying? There are horses for courses, and this is real-

ly my golf course," he said.

McGrath for the rest of the evening to keep England's I-0 lead in the six-match series in tact. Thorpe (30 not out), who survived a few searching deliveries from Warne, was in a punishing mood, hooking and cutting vehe-mently as he shared 64 undefeated runs with Crawley (29 not out).

Warne spun the ball viciously off the bowlers' foot marks at times and showed signs of returning to his best, finishing with two for 47 off 19 overs. He caught and bowled Nasser Hussain for a fifth. ball naught and clean howled Butcher off the ruff.

Butcher and Atherton frustrated the Australiao attack for over three-and-a-half hours before the England skipper finally fell, step-

The Botcher-Atherton stand was England's first opening partnership over one hundred for 13 Tests, when Athertoo and Graham Gooch shared 203 in Adelaide in 1990-91.

It was also England's first century stand hy the openers at Lord's since John Edrich and Barry Wood raised 111 runs in 1975 against Australia.

Atherton controlled the stand with his 24th half century in 48 Tests.

Atherton said Australia's fine performance and England's firstinnings effort of 77 all out had done no harm done to England's confidence going into the third Test starting at Old Trafford in two weeks.

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Robert Guite 12-5-30-12 Batting time: 747 minutes: Overs: 61 England, 2nd tonings Mark Botcher b Warne Hichael Atherton Jur wicker 10.78 Alec Stewart e Kasprowicz & McGrath Nasser Hussain c'and b Warne B. Graham Thorpe not out John Grawley not out 29, Entrais (80, 14th, 7ah, Iw) TOTAL: 266 runs for four writers lectared. fall of wickey: 162, 189, 197, 202.

Fall of wickey: 1,62, 189, 197, 202. Bowling: Gienn HcGrath 20-Sous-& (200) Raut Beillet 12-5-29-0 (200), HcGraef Capacopro-15-3-54-1 (306), Shane Wante 19, 4-12, 2, HcGrae Bevan 8-4-29-0, Sneve Wangh 4-0-78-0 Batting time, 318 minutes, Divis, 39 Basult: Match-drawa Han of the match: Geom ScGrath Quoterlia.

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GENERAL

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National athletics championships offer chances for Athens

By JOEL GORDIN

The Israel Athletic Championships, to begin on July 6, will be a valuable dress rehearsal for the six Israelis who have already secured their places in the team to attend the world championships in Athens in August. It will also be an opportunity for et least seven more to make the squad, said Israel Athletic Association chairman Shlomo Ben Gal.

"Money is no longer a barrier to the team's size, " stated Ben Gal. "We (the IAA) promise to send every single athlete to Athens who achieves the minimum standard for entry."

Those who are already in the team are triple jumpers Rogel Nahum and Avi Tayri, pole vaulters Danny Krasnov and Constantine Simiyonov, high jumper Constantine Matusevich and marathon runner Assaf Bimro.

The seven who still have hopes of achieving minimum standards are: *New national 110m. record holder Ofir Shmuel who must reduce his best time for the event of 14.25 secs to 14.04 secs; *Yosef Gesacho who needs to cut his 800m. time from 1:48.57 to 1:47.50; *Sprinter Tsfir Golan, who has done 10.56 secs for the 100m. hut must get this down to 10.54 secs; *Tommy Kfir who

must reduce his best for the 200m from 21.48 secs to 21.04 secs; *Long jumper Mark Melisof who must leap 7.90m. His best jump this year is 7.69m. * High jumper Itai Margalit who must clear 2.28m. His best jump so far is 2.26m. * Edna Lankri who holds the national record for the 1,500m of 4:14.18. She needs to do better than 4:14.0. The most bighly-contested

events at the championships will be the "three jumps"- the triple jump, high jump and pole vault. Only a few ceotimeters separate the best achievements of Krasnov and Simiyoniv (pole vault); Rogel and Tayri (triple jump) and Matosovitz and Margalit (high

jump). In the women's section, both Edna Lankri (1,500m.) and Dorit Ashkenazi (javelin) have chances of beating their national marks. As an added attraction for the local athletes, the IAA has invited a number of top foreign athletes to take part in the championships. These include Chilean sprinter Sebastian Ketal (best time for 100m: 10.13 secs); Latvian triple jumper Marius Broziks (17:30m) and Yugoslavian high jumper Dragen Topic (2.35m.). The 61st annual championships will be opened by President Ezer Weizman.

HARRISON, NY (AP) - This is wire repeat champion on the PGA Tour since Tom Watson won the becoming a familiar sight on Tournament of Champions in 1979 and 1980 at La Costa American golf courses these days - Ernie Els on an 18th green in the golden sunlight of an early Couotry Club in Carlsbed, Sunday evening, raising his arms California. Els also became the first golfer since Hale Irwin in It happened at last week's US 1990 to win on tour the week after Open, and it bappeoed again Sunday at the Buick Classic, as winning the US Open. With Sunday's victory, Els dis-placed Tiger Woods as the No. 1 Els overcame shaky putting and a

Els wins at Buick Classic

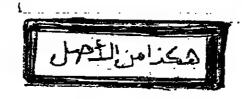
two-hour rain delay for a two-stroke victory over Jeff Maggert. player in golf according to the Sony world rankings. Unlike last Sunday at Congressional, when Els hugged That's quite surprising," Els said. "I don't know what to say his caddy Ricci Roberts after ebout that. I was struggling for six making his final putt, this time mooths and you win two tourna-Maggert gave him a bear bug ments and you're No. 1." Els' domioance at the Westchester Country Club has and then tried to hip toss the hig South African off his feet. But, for the second straight year oever been in questioo. He has et the Westchester Country Club, finished second, tied for fourth

oobody could throw Els, though they came closer this year than in 1996, when he ran away from the field hy eight strokes. Els became the first wire-to-

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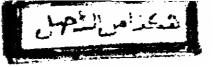
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The Jerusalem Post Tuesday, June 24, 1997

WHAT'S ON

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vs. Ecuador Susan

	rue Jensalem Post Tuesday, June 24, 1997	WHAT'S ON 11
day	CRITIC'S CHOICE	TV vs. Ecuador 17:00 Square One 17:10 Aburn Show 18:10 French pro- grams grams 23:00 Seinleid (rpt)
	CLASSICAL MUSIC MICHAEL AJZENSTADT Menahem Nebenhaus leads his Camerata Ramat Hasharon Orchestra in Mendelssohn's 10th Symphony for Stings, Three Pieces in Old Style by Gorecki and Haydh's 43rd Symphony. Salomi Shaban joins to play Mozart's KA14 Piano Concerto, tonight (8:30) at the Tel Aviv Museum. Saturday evening, at the same locale	Image: Structure of the
	Interzo-soprano Tal Amir, alto Bracha Kol, senor Yotam Cohen, baritone Dan Ettinger and planists lrit Rob-Levi and Ariel Cohen present a delightful evening of love songs and arias includ- ing Bemstein's Arias and Barcaroles and love songs by Brahms (9). The Reduced Shakespeare Company's tour starts Image: Bemstein's Arias and Barcaroles and love songs by Brahms (9). The Reduced Shakespeare Company's tour starts Image: Bemstein's Arias and Barcaroles and love songs by Brahms (9). The Reduced Shakespeare Company's tour starts Image: Bemstein's Arias and Barcaroles and love songs by Brahms (9). The Reduced Shakespeare Company's tour starts Image: Bemstein's Arias and Barcaroles and love songs by Brahms (9). The Reduced Shakespeare Company's tour starts Image: Bemstein's Arias and Barcaroles and love songs by Brahms (9). The Reduced Shakespeare Company's tour starts Image: Bemstein's Arias and Barcaroles and love songs by Brahms (9). The Reduced Shakespeare Company's tour starts Image: Bemstein's Arias and Barcaroles and their lnimitable version of The Complete Works of William Shakespeare - Abridged. That's all 37 plays in 97 side-splitting minutes. Tonight on the Cameri Theater main stage at 8:30 p.m. As this happens, it becomes harder and harder to separate the director's admirably smooth control of mood and tempo in individual scenes from his over-arching, dunderheaded political paranoia. Also with Ed Harris and Laura Linney. (English dialogue, Hebrew subitles. Children under 17 not admitted without an adult.)	11:15 Sciences 11:30 Science and Ticto Renniby16:00 Larry King Tr:00 Family(1996) - an FBI agent messigates arson the Lofia Davkdovich 18:45 New in the Cheater ge 13:50 Cartoons 14:35 Cartoons 14:35 Cartoons 14:35 Cartoons 14:35 Cuentin Cuack 15:00 Zombit(1996) - an FBI agent messigates arson 18:00 Tongue in Cheak (Habrew, Bell 19:00 Tongue in Cheak (Habrew, 19:00 Tongue in 20:00 Showcase to an Plowright, Dark Loss Davids (Manham mess of a 15:55 Booly 16:25 Yeledudes 16:25 Yeledudes 16:25 Yeledudes 16:25 Yeledudes 16:25 Yeledudes 16:25 Yeledudes 16:25 Yeledudes 16:25 Yeledudes 16:25 Yeledudes 16:25 Yeledudes 16:26 A Naw Evening 16:26 Naw In Tabet 22:30 The 700 Club 23:30 The 700 Club 23:30 The 700 Club 23:30 The 700 Club 23:30 The 700 Club(1996) - an FBI agent messigates arson (Habrew, Cheak (Habrew, Cheak (Habrew, 20:25 Bridge of Time the life and fimes of a targe immigrant liamily cheak (Habrew, construct (1996) (rpt)(1996) - an FBI agent messigates arson Cheak (Habrew, Cheak (Habrew, Cheak (Habrew, 20:25 Bridge of Time the life and fimes of a targe immigrant liamily tabeth Perkins, Joan Plowright, Darek Media-Stahl(1996) - an FBI agent messigates arson the life and fimes of a targe immigrant liamily tabeth Perkins, Jacobi and Amin tabeth Perkins
St: Germany's March 2nd Test	HELEN KAYE The Israel Ballet brings its energetic and upbeat program of three short works to the Tel Aviv Performing Arts Center. There's Berta Yampolsky's Visiting Card, a look at a day in the life of a ballet dancer, Encore, her checky salute to Israel's 50th, and Gershwin Concerto by Kristoff Pastor. Tonight at 8:30 and Thursday at 6 p.m. FILM Tuesday seems to be documentary evening on Channels 1 and 2. Tonight at 10, Channel 1 is showing Manhunt, a British Channel 4 documentary. The program follows an Israeli rabbi who travels all over the world in search of men who have left their wives without giving them a divorce. Rabbi Yehuda Gordon does everything he can to help these agunos out of their unfortunate situation. On Channel 2, the last program in this season of Iman Dayan's Fact (9:10) will be broadcast live from an IDF post on the border in Southem Lebanon. MADINA HOFFMAN The show will include a film about the life of an efite unit in Lebanon and a panel discussion on the future of the IDF in Lebanon, with OC Northern Command Amiram Levine, military analyst Ron	ARABIC (1994) (100 (1994) (100 modifier means and his attempts to release to mean who haves the rabb's hurn for the reme and his attempts to release to mean who haves ECHIL NEW (1994) (100 ECHIL NEW (1994) (100 ECHIL NEW (1994) (100 23:30 (Sky World News (1994) (19
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	 pay! (7,6) 10 Striking actors a fellow rejected (7) 11 Leave a group of players with no backing (7) 12 Singer given time in jail (4) 13 Institute being reorganised (5) 14 Give up in shamefaced embarrassment (4) 17 Going on totally without motive (7) 18and without a break (3-4) 19 Hald back on the subject of reporters (7) 22 Not much of a course to study (7) 24 Cupid turned troublesome (4) 28 a 4 b 5 7 29 Top men. tried so desperately (7) 30 In time accepting one as a caretaker (7) 31 Shaep-shearing can be dreamy (4-9) 32 Some owners give a lap-dog to much of a course to study (7) 24 Cupid turned troublesome (4) 29 Top men. tried so desperately (7) 30 In time accepting one as a caretaker (7) 31 Shaep-shearing can be dreamy (4-9) 32 Some owners give a lap-dog to much of a course to study (7) 34 Give a course to study (7) 34 Cupid turned troublesome (4) 34 b 5 7 35 Some owners a pin-up of Continental origin (7) 46 Lake fish (4) 46 b 5 7 47 b 5 7 48 b 5 7 49 b 5 7 40 b 5 7 41 b 6 5 7 41 b 7 <	20:00 News Gimmel12:00 Barnaty Ariv (rps)5:00 Open University (rps)6:00 Open University (rps)7:00 Fian Cancock 7:00 Fian Cancock 7:00 Fian Cancock 7:00 Fian Cancock2:00 Cycling: Tour of witzsriand2:00 Cycling: Tour of witzsriand2:00 Cycling: Tour of witzsriand2:00 Cycling: Tour of Skitzsriand2:00 Cycling: Tour of Skitzsriand2:
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Tuesday, June 24, 1997 The Jerusalem Post

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Livnat: Peled recommendations will spark broadcast revolution

By HELEN KAYE

A third commercial TV channel, direct satellite broadcast services, and the creation of a national authority for electronic communications are among the major recommendations in the Peled Commission Report on restructuring the country's broadcasting system, which was officially released yesterday.

Calling for an "open skies" policy, Communications Minister Limor Livnal said yesterday that if implemented, the planned reforms "constitute a genuine broadcast revolution that will directly influence the quality of life for every Israeli citizen."

Livnat will sum up the Peled Report at Friday's cabinet meeting and urge the government to adopt it in its entirely.

The broadcast communications revolution is already under way." she said. "Are we going to wait for it to arrive here piecemeal and haphazardly? Or are we going to ensure the orderly transition of our broadcasi systems to the new technologies? Nobody would dream of limiting the print media. It should be the same for broadcasting."

The "open skies" policy will allow multiple carriers to offer broadcast services to the public on a competitive basis, subject to new legislation. Effective and timely regulation of the new technologies would help off-

set rogue broadcasting such as pomography already allegedly being beamed in via satellite, "although ultimately we cannot, nor do we wish to legislate what people watch," she said. She also expressed the hope that

expanding choice for the consumer would not further degrade the standards of TV/radio fare on offer.

Other major changes include a switchover to digital broadcasting, changes to the existing cable and regional radio frameworks to encourage competition and more choice, and comprehensive broadcasting legislation. There is also a proposal to create a TV channel to broadcast to the Diaspora.

Commission chairman Yossi Peled said that in its eight months of deliberations, committee members spoke with 36 interested parties to get as wide a spectrum of opinion as possible on the scope and/or feasibility of the proposed changes. These included Channel 2, Arutz 7, Army Radio and the Channel 2 franchisees, Keshet, Reshet and Tel-Ad. Peled said that his mandate did

Communications Minister Limor Livnat and Peled Commission chairman Yossi Peled present the commission's report on revamping the country's broadcasting system to a Tel Aviv press conference yesterday.

oot include a discussion of the changes, which have been leaked to future of public broadcasting, which is being deliberated by the Zuckerman Commission, whose findings have yet to be released. A Gallup poll conducted last

month showed that 78% of those polled were in favor of the proposed

the press over the last few months. "It will not be easy," Livnat stressed, saying that opposition to the proposed changes was inevitable and legitimate but that eventually the changes would have to come about "for the wider public good."

The first salvos have already been mercial channel would drag down fired. Educational TV head Ahuva the quality of commercial television the quality of commercial television Feinmesser said that the Report's probecause two stations would then be posal to oust the service from Channel expected to manage on the advertis-2 has no basis in law and is motivated ing income that is now supporting Channel 2. The result would be by purely commercial considerations. Shinui MK Avraham Poraz said heavy reliance by both stations on the establishment of another comcheap imported material.

Commission recommendations

To effect fair and open competition in the broadcasting sector, the Peled Commission recommends:

· A separatioo of carriers (the broadcasters) and content providers (like the Channel 2 franchisees). The carrier services - via cable, satellites, terrestrial, telephone, etc. - will offer their services with no strings attached.

· Cable and satellite companies will be able to offer pay TV options. · A new commercial channel with a single corporate license holder would begin operating in 1999, the year the franchises expire on Channel 2. It is also recommended that Channel 2 be a single corporate entity.

· Restructuring regional radio so that the stations can link up to broadcast certain programs or events country-wide.

· The establishmeot of the five dedicated commercial cable channels: Arabic; Russian and Amharic; Jewish heritage; Israeli and eastem music; news.

To make it work, the commission recommends:

Comprehensive broadcasting legislation to unite all existing communicatioos laws.

. The creation of an autonomous oational authority, something like the US Federal Communications Commission, to deal with planning, licensing, and supervision of all broadcast services.

A commission for public complaints that would be autocomous and responsible for broadcast and advertising ethics.

 A shift from franchises – which are exclusive – to licenses, which require only that the applicant meet certain criteria.

Hebrew U. launches ELDAN Worldwide new unit to research industrial health

Fear of foreign workers spreading

By JUDY SIEGEL

More than 50 foreign workers in the Tel Aviv area have been diagnosed as HIV carriers over the last four years, an Ichilov Hospital doctor disclosed yesterday, at the Knesset State Control Committee's discussion of the State Comptroller Report's section oo the Health Ministry's AIDS centers.

Health Minister Yebosbua Matza warned agaiost allowing a further increase in the number of foreign workers, who are "a source of the spread of AIDS."

He also noted that many of the foreigners, as well as Israelis, are ignorant of facts about AIDS and don't protect themselves against infection.

In the geoeral population, 10 to 15 additional HIV carriers are diagnosed each month, and the total of reported carriers in the country is now 1,564. The estimate of actual carriers is some 2,500.

Health Ministry Director-Geoeral Prof. Gabi Barabasb said at the meeting that at least some of them can be saved by giving them a "cocktail" of spe-

cial medications. However, the Finance Ministry continoes to refuse to include the drugs in the basket of bealth services, so the health funds don't bave to supply them to members who are HIV carriers. The cost of including them would be NIS 50 million.

The winning cards in yesterday's Chance draw (176/97) were the seven of spades, nine of hearts, king of diamonds, and eight of clubs. The results of the second draw (177/97) were the seven of spades, 10 of hearts, king of diamonds, and seven of clubs.

Winning cards

Paratroopers want some respect

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

TAIBE, South Lebanon -Shmulik, a chunky, croppedhaired paratrooper, just returned from a three-day hunt for Hizbullah guerrillas in south Lebanon, is looking for some respect.

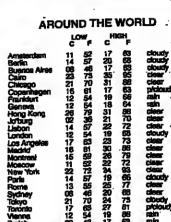
"Whenever you hear about soldiers who don't want to serve in Lebanon it gets plastered all across the press. But when our company takes out two terrorists it ends up as a tiny paragraph on page eight," said Shmulik.

For the troops in Lebanon, the

cut wheat. On a clear day one can see the sea. It last came under Hizbullah mortar fire two weeks

Today it is bristling with a company of paratroopers from the 101st battalion, some jost returning from 60-hour amboshes and other cleaning their weapons and checking their gear before heading out. Taibe protects the western flank of the Galilee Panhandle. Its troops have killed a over 11 Hizbullah guerrillas in . their sector alone in the past year. Some paratroopers spoke of

pareotal pressure to opt out of





NEWS

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By JUDY SIEGEL

Work accidents cost the economy NIS 1.6 billion a year, according to Bracha Ben-Zvi, head of the Labor and Social Affairs Ministry's committee on prevention and research io occupational health.

Speaking at the opening of an academic chair and laboratory for iodustrial hygieoe at the Hebrew University, Ben-Zvi said that three million work days are lost annually due to work accidents.

Labor and Social Affairs Minister Eli Yishai said that despite the great advances in technology in recent years, protechnology in recent years, pro-tecting the health of people on the job is way behind. He expected that the new Hebrew University facilities would reduce this gap and contribute to occupational health of the negative population.

Prof. Menahem Luria, bead of the university's School for

Ukraine to share Jewish material with Israeli researchers

By JUDY SIEGEL

CD-ROMs showing rare items of Judaica from the Ukrainian Jewish community were presented recently to a delegation of the Israel Academy of Sciences by that country's scientific institutes. These include antique recordings on wax of Jewish folklore seg-

ments by the great Yiddish writer Sholom Aleicbem. The wax recording technique is the oldest in the world and allowed voices to be preserved from the 19th century. The Ukraine National Library has

a million items connected to Jewisb heritage, including Sholom Aleichem's own manuscripts, community registers and segments of cantorial music. Representatives of Israel's National and Hebrew University Library in Jerusalem will be given access to this material

Applied Science, said that most people think high-tech industries are "clean" and therefore not dangerous. But this is a misconception, as some of them deal with very dangerous substances. Workers must be protected and the environment has to be cootrolled, Luria declared.

The new academic unit is to develop uoiversity-level curricula in the field and train manpower for research and work in the field. It will conduct surveys and promote monitoring in the workplaces. Students will work towards a master's degree in environmental sciences with specialization in industrial bygiene.

Oce of the unique devices in the lab is an infra-red spectropbotometer, which detects fumes from organic compounds in the air. It is the only one of its kind in Israel and will enable experts to conduct research oo the dangers of such compounds in the workplace.

and will include it in its recording project of Jewish folklore around the world. The possibility of joint research and development with the

Ukrainians has also been raised.

Prof. Ya'acov Ziv, head of the Israel Academy of Sciences, said

books it published will be offered

for display at Kiev's national

library oext year, to mark Israel's

Ziv said that during the talks, the

establishment of a center for

research of Jewish and Ukrainian

research institutes would promote

direct ties between scientists in the two countries and ensure the contin-

uation of research into Jewish sub-

jects outside Israel, Ziv concluded.

50th anniversary.

whether Israel should pull back or stay put is somewhere in the back of their minds; they bave more pressing details to worry about IDF troops, like the para-trooper company manning the position of Taibe about five kilometers west of Kiryat Shmona, are proud of what they are doing, but feel the public doesn't appreciate their sacrifices.

"We aren't sitting ducks. We want more appreciatioo and don't want to be talked of as the suckers in Lebanon. Somebody has to do it," said Shmulik.

Hizbullah has taken a downswing lately and has refrained from direct confrootation with the IDF. Preferring to keep their distance, attacks and clashes have given way to mortar and gunfire and upgraded rocket attacks.

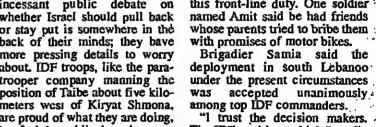
Road-side charges, the pre-Hizbullab guerrilla ferred weapon, are still being laid, but recently introduced precautions have stilled their effectiveness. Brig.-Gen. Yom-Tov Samia,

commander of the IDF division holding the security zone from the Mediterranean Sea in the west to the foothills of Marjayoun in the east, said be recognized the impression that Hizbullah was more restrained and credited it to IDF offensive operations.

There is oo new situation in Lebanon," Samia said. "I don't like this term new situation. The battle is daily and if it doesn't happen on the ground then it takes place in the minds on both sides."

Eleven IDF soldiers have been killed so far this year, and by IDF estimates some three times as many Hizbullah fighters have died. For a guerrilla war, the IDF sees this as a victory since the ratio has historically beeo the other way around elsewhere in the world. Hizbullah has recently changed its local commanders, which may have effected its move toward a more defensive behavior.

The Taibe position in south Lebanon sits atop a field of hand-



"I trust the decision makers. The IDF position, which I totally agree with, is that the security zone is vital to the defeose of the North. I doo't think that the [public debate oo a withdrawal] is having an effect on the soldiers. It is bothering Israeli society more than here. I hope that we can become united and I promise from here to supply the goods." Samia said.

Soldiers in the company have a lot of respect for their baby-faced commander, 24-year-old Lt. Lior. Some speak of his combat histo-ry with awe, and tell bow he has numerous kills to his credit. The soft-spoken Lt. Lior said his company was able to maintain such a high level of motivation because of the unity they have cul-tivated. He said that some of his soldiers were under tremendous pressure from bome to drop out of. service on Israel's last active war front. But he also said there have been no desertions from the com-

pany in over a year. "What keeps the unit is their pride," Lt. Lior said. "I also don't think what goes on in the country crosses their minds when they are on the ramparts. They are thinking mainly aboot how they are going to get their mis-sion done and what they have to do to get through the daily grind. No one is talking ideology here."

We all here feel that we have to prove something, each one for their own reasons. Some are looking for the braggart glory, for others its the Zionist ideology that pushes them. Me. I'm from Kiryat Shmona and that says it all," said Eldad. "But even those who live in Ramat Aviv Gimmel are protecting the country because if we aren't here, they [Hizbullah] will come to the fence.

Jewish heritage was proposed. Such a center would coordinate scientific activity in the field and cooperation with Israeli experts. The publication of Israeli research at Ukrainian research institutes would promote DRIVE AREFULLY

